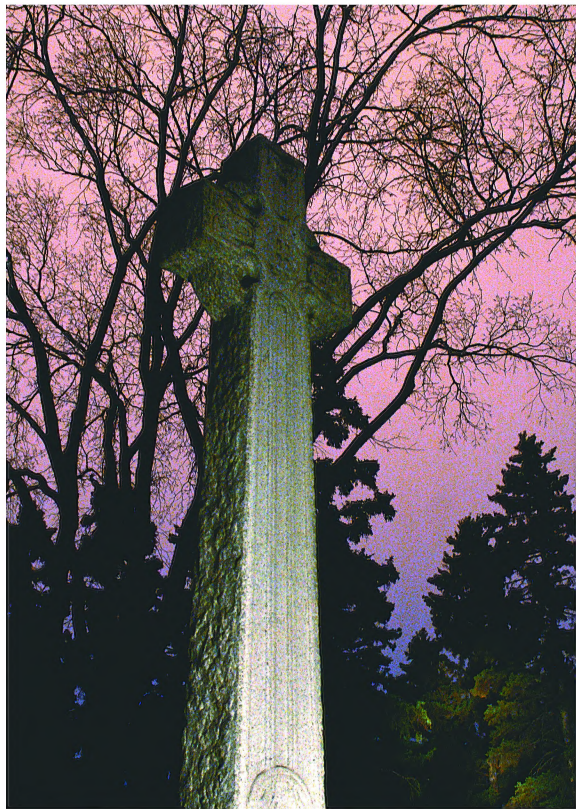


THE GATEWAY

volume XCIV number 14 • the official student newspaper at the university of alberta • www.gateway.ualberta.ca • tuesday, 26 october, 2004



LEARN FROM GHOSTS AND HISTORY If you've never toured a graveyard, you're missing out. Check out the feature to find out why.

Nobel recipient urges global cooperation

COSANNA PRESTON
Senior News Editor

Perched on a small white platform enabling her to rise above the podium, Shirin Ebadi addressed a sold-out Butte dome last Thursday night.

As the first female judge of Iran, and now the first female Iranian and Muslim winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Shirin Ebadi advocated the peaceful cooperation of nations at the seventh annual University of Alberta

Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights.

"Establishing democracy and human rights is the duty of every nation. The people of all countries need the emotional and mental support of the international world," said Ebadi through a translator.

"We are all in the same ship and the ship is on its way to a bigger civilization. Any damage done to any part of this ship will affect its motion."

PLEASE SEE EBADI • PAGE 3

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7 Why not take a break from your midterms and read some fine opinionated goodness? Graham Lettner sympathizes with you while Chelsea Grimbly makes you feel guilty. Col

Football Bears clinch first place for first time in two decades

ROSS PRISAKOWSKI
Sports Writer

The last time the Golden Bears finished in first place in Canada West football, the league was known as the Western Intercollegiate Football League. Brian Mulroney had just been sworn in as Prime Minister, and Arnold Schwarzenegger was beginning his first run at The Terminator.

Twenty years later, they have finally returned to the top with a convincing 21-13 win over the Saskatchewan

Huskies (5-2) on Saturday at Foote Field, clinching first place with a 7-1 record and securing home field throughout the playoffs.

It's a remarkable turnaround for a program that dwelled in the basement for most of the intervening two decades and finished 1-7 a mere two years ago.

"I'm really happy for the guys that hung in there when we were 1-7. At least they've reaped the benefits of that season," said Bears head coach Jerry Friesen.

"It's the players that believed in themselves; they believed in the system, believed in their coaches and that's what made the difference."

Now, the Bears will have a week to savour their success, as they have a bye in the final week of the regular season. They'll await the weekend's results to see who they'll host in the first round of the conference playoffs on Saturday, 6 November at Foote Field—either the Calgary Dinos or the Simon Fraser Clan.

PLEASE SEE VICTORY • PAGE 14

Feds to regulate natural medicines

U of A's ColdFX one of the first natural products to meet new Health Canada regulations

NICOLE TOMLINSON
News Writer

A study conducted by a U of A researcher has found that the natural health product ColdFX helps prevent the common cold.

ColdFX is one of only a few standardized items on the natural health product market currently standardized, but many more will have to follow suit due to Health Canada's new regulations which require all natural health products to undergo testing.

The one-year clinical trial, led by Dr Tapan Basu, a professor of agriculture, food and nutritional science at the U of A, showed that the ginseng-based pill reduced the incidence of cold by 26 per cent in 300 subjects. It also reduced the severity of cold symptoms.

"Overall, we found that it had quite a striking effect in reducing the reoccurrence of cold," said Basu.

Dr Jackie Shan, co-founder of CV Technologies, a U of A spinoff company, attributes the success of ColdFX to her company's commitment to taking a scientific approach to manufacturing natural health products (NHPs).

"We are a very unique company who developed technology allowing us to not only put scientific evidence on the product, but also to standardize a natural-based product."

Although CV Technologies is one of the first companies to take a scientific approach to NHPs, it won't be the last: due to new Health Canada regulations, all companies wanting to sell their natural health products in Canada will have to do the same.

The Natural Health Product Regulations, implemented by Health Canada in January 2004, are designed

to ensure that NHPs in Canada are safe, and that the medicinal claims that manufacturers make about their products are legitimate. NHPs include vitamins and minerals, herbal remedies, homeopathic medicines, traditional medicines such as traditional Chinese medicines, and other products like amino acids and essential fatty acids.

"Any products that bear a [Natural Product Number] will be products that have undergone the assessment of Health Canada. It means that they have provided sufficient data to prove that they are safe and effective."

NATHALIE LALONDE,
HEALTH CANADA

Companies that want to sell their NHPs first have to submit an application for a licence to Health Canada, providing solid scientific evidence that the claims they are making about the NHP are accurate. Products that meet federal standards will be issued a Natural Product Number (NPN).

"Any products that bear an NPN will be products that have undergone the assessment of Health Canada. It means that they will have provided sufficient data to prove that they are safe and effective," explained Health Canada representative Nathalie Lalonde.

PLEASE SEE COLDFX • PAGE 6



18 Being prime minister is one tough job. And Paul Gross should know—he plays one on TV. The U of A alum tells about the rigours of "public office" in today's A&E.

From the archives

The SU's new Students' Union Building was approved after a series of unanimous or near unanimous votes at Students' Council in October of this year. The original facility proposed would contain lounges, meeting rooms and offices, recreation facilities—including controversial bowling and curling areas, billiards, a meditation area, arts workshops, a bank, a barber and more. However, the original scheme was deemed too expensive.

1969

Study time!

Like all of you guys, the staff and volunteers at the Gateway have these pesky things called "midterms." Apparently, you need to do well to "pass" them, which is "the reason everyone is here." So no paper Thursday to distract you

THE GATEWAY

tuesday, 26 october, 2004
volume XCIV number 14

Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 10000
ISSN 0845-356X

Suite 3-04
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6C 2T7

Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665
E-mail gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Adam Rozenhart
eic@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.5168

MANAGING EDITOR Kristine Owram
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6654

SENIOR NEWS EDITOR Cosanna Preston
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7938

NEWS EDITOR Caitlin Crawshaw
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6664

OPINION EDITOR David Berry
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6663

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Leah Collins
entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7052

SPORTS EDITOR Jake Troughton
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652

PHOTO EDITOR Leanne Fong
photo@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6648

PRODUCTION EDITOR Daniel Kaszior
production@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6661

business staff

BUSINESS MANAGER Don Heson
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6669

AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE Patrick Ciolek
ads@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6500

AD GRAPHIC DESIGNER Lisa Lumm
design@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6647

CIRCULATION PAL Matt Frehner
circulation@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6669

CIRCULATION PAL Izabel Campbell-Lemire
circulation@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6669

THE GATEWAY is published by the
Gateway Student Journalism Society
(GSJS), a student-run, non-profit
organization, operated in accordance with the
Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be
a founding member of the
Canadian University Press.

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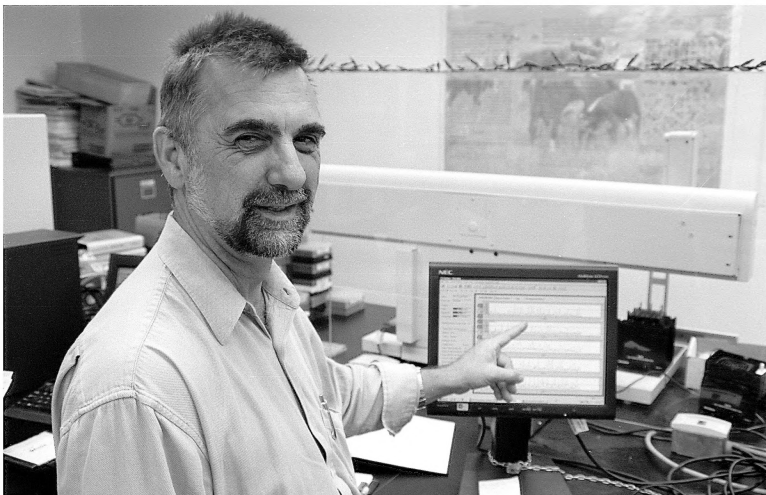
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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers,
Linux Powerpc 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon
Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe's InDesign
is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector
images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster
images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which
are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the
printing press. Text is set in a variety of styles, sizes,
and weights. Helvetica, Times, and Arial are the main
typefaces. The Gateway's games of choice are D&D and Burnout 3.
Also, only 14 more days till Halo 2. And GTA: SA should
be in the stores any day now.

contributors

Chris Kish, Rick Winkler, Andrew Benfies, Chris
Leary, Paul Owen, My Cousin Danielle, James
Landon Miller, Adam Gassman, Michael Larocque,
Elizabeth Vail, Virginia Ling, Alex Nick, Nicole, Natalie
Clemmings, Hanna Nahn, Nicole Tomlinson, Chloé
Fido, Matt Frehner, Trevor Rana, Jonathan Chow, Jay
Graham Lettice, Scott L. Webb, Chelsea Gribble, Scott C.
Bourgeois, Fish Grolowsky, Phil and Corinne Head, Mike
Stokes, Kathleen De Vere, Alex Labradin, Dr. Leanne
Brown, Mike Otto, Jeffery Greenleaf, Nathalie Nabou,
Cory Warren, Dr. James Wallace and Jacob Edelman



PHILIP HEAD

BEEFY FINDINGS The U of A's Dr Stephen Moore is assisting in international efforts to sequence the bovine genome.

International scientists make headway in understanding genetic blueprint of cows

U of A research team helps international efforts to complete the sequencing of the bovine genome

NICOLE TOMLINSON
News Writer

An international consortium led by Americans and Canadians has successfully completed the first step in sequencing the cow genome.

The \$53 million needed for the International Bovine Genome Sequencing Project was contributed by several organizations worldwide, including Genome Canada, which donated \$5 million US.

Completion of the preliminary draft of the bovine genome was announced on Wednesday, 6 October. The final draft of the sequence is expected in the spring of 2005.

"When you have the sequence, you know where [the genes] are located, and you know where they are located in the organism, but you don't have a clue, usually, of what the genes are doing and what they are responsible for," said Annie Perrault of Genome Canada.

A research team at the University of Alberta, led by Dr Stephen Moore, a professor of agriculture, food and

nutritional science, is playing a key role in the second phase of the project: determining where the genes are located on the 13 bovine chromosomes and, more importantly, what the genes do.

"There's billions and billions of dollars lost every year by the cattle industry because of cattle dying of infectious diseases. This research could have a huge impact on the industry."

ANIE PERRAULT,
GENOME CANADA

"What we're going to do next is to use this resource, this tool called the bovine genome sequence, in order to translate that into something of value. We want to identify the genes that

are important for the cattle and dairy industry," Moore explained.

Figuring out which genes in the genome are functional will lead to a better understanding of how diseases such as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) occur. It will also help researchers to design vaccines to protect cattle against other illnesses.

"There's billions and billions of dollars lost every year by the cattle industry because of cattle dying of infectious diseases. This research could have a huge impact on the industry. If you minimize the number of infectious diseases affecting the cattle, then you minimize economic loss due to that," Perrault said.

The province of Alberta and beef producers have contributed approximately \$3 million of Moore's research. The findings of this research could provide Alberta ranchers with a tool to breed cattle for traits that are favourable for the industry; for example, how efficiently they use their feed.

"Like people, some animals can

eat a lot and stay skinny, some animals can eat a little bit and get fat. We could take the weights of the animals and then calculate how much they've had to eat and determine their 'daily growth rate,'" explained Moore.

"The difference can be as much as four kilograms of food a day for animals that are the same size or growing at the same rate. Four kilograms a day of feed in an efficient animal translates into a lot of money for the producer," explained Moore.

Although this project has had contributions from New Zealand, Australia, and the United States, Canadian researchers like Moore are playing a key role in the research process.

"Our researchers are stepping up to the plate when there are important issues coming up from a scientific perspective in the world, like the Mad Cow crisis," said Perrault.

"I think the investment that we have made in the last few years for our new technology is really showing some results right away. It's an important project for Canada."

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Allie Wojtaszek
(allie@allie.ca)

DIDN'T MOM SAY, "JUST SAY NO"?

On Saturday, 23 October, 50 constables noticed two youths smoking outside the south side of HUB, contrary to the Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Act.

It was discovered that one of the males had outstanding criminal warrants. He was arrested and turned over to EPS. The male had no University affiliation.

EARLY-MORNING BUMPIN JOYRIDE

On Saturday, 23 October at 4am, 5-0 observed a pickup truck driving erratically on 89 Avenue past the Campus

Security office. The constables conducted a vehicle stop and the driver of the vehicle and two other occupants were identified; neither was affiliated with the U of A. Two of the three occupants had criminal records.

Further investigation revealed that the vehicle was stolen and a knapsack full of cigarettes was recovered. The EPS attended and is currently investigating.

HE WAS BORN A RAMBLIN' MAN

At 11:34pm on Friday, 22 October, officers observed a male wandering in the east campus area. He was identified and had a previous criminal record for property crimes including break and enters. He was trespassing and escorted from University property.

As is apparently the standard, this man was not affiliated with the University.

LEAKS: NOW IN STEREO

On Friday, 22 October officers investigated a suspicious package at the Materials Management building after a complaint was received that a large package was leaking a substance.

5-0 and the EPS attended and determined that this was not the case and that the box contained stereo speakers that were ordered online from an eastern Canada electronics company.

DOLING OUT LAW IN THE LAW BUILDING

At 8:52am on Friday, 22 October, Campus 5-0 received a report of a suspicious male and female panhandling in the Law Building. Constables attended and recognized them as having been previously trespassed. 5-0 dealt with the same two individuals for the last two consecutive days for panhandling or

harassing people.

Both were issued provincial summons for trespassing and escorted from the property. Both have extensive criminal records.

VOLAU FACULTÉ

On Wednesday, 20 October between 5pm and 9pm, unknown thieves accessed a second-floor office at the Faculté St Jean and a small amount of cash was stolen. Access into the office was gained via an unlocked door. There are currently no suspects.

CLOSE, BUT NO CIGAR

At 8:30am on Friday, 22 October, unknown suspects attempted to force entry into a fourth-floor lab in the Chemical and Materials Engineering Building. However, access was not gained.



'LET'S BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER' Nobel Prize winner Shirin Ebadi spoke to a rapt U of A audience last Thursday.

Knowledge withheld from developing countries, says Nobel Prize winner

EBADI • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ebadi stressed the role of universities in peace building through cooperation. Student and professor exchanges, international conferences and book translations all work toward international and scientific communication and understanding, she said, urging developed countries to readily share their knowledge with developing states.

"The worst plague threatening knowledge is the reluctance to share it, which has unfortunately become prevalent in the world as of late," Ebadi remarked.

This prevalence is especially apparent in the United States, she said. Since 11 September, 2001, students from developing countries have been explicitly prohibited from enrolling in advanced technical fields of study such as information technology, nuclear engineering and genetic engineering.

"If we look at the world as an international village, then all should benefit equally from all its benefits including science. We can't brag about globalization and deprive the people of one part of the world of knowledge."

Iran is a country so deprived, said Ebadi, though she recognized its plight is a combination of Iranian policies and the foreign policies of Western states. Iranians have lost all patience waiting for the government's promised reforms and modernization, she explained.

"Iranian people would like to improve their circumstances through peaceful and democratic methods and

they are ready for any kind of sacrifice to achieve this goal. The number of political prisoners in Iran proves this claim," she said.

Yet despite their fight, the country of 70 million people is still embroiled in archaic, discriminatory practices, she said. Most visible is gender discrimination—the result of a static interpretation of Islam and the Iranian culture.

"The worst plague threatening knowledge is the reluctance to share it, which has unfortunately become prevalent in the world as of late."

**SHIRIN EBADI,
NOBEL PEACE PRIZE RECIPIENT**

For example, while men can have four wives and divorce without reason, women find it difficult, even impossible to ask for divorce, she said. In court, the testimony of two women is equivalent to one man's, and in terms of reciprocity, a woman's life is worth half of a man's.

"If a man and a woman are injured in a collision with a car, the compensating amount that is paid to the injured woman will be half as much as the amount given to the man," said Ebadi.

But the discrimination extends further to harm even children, she continued. Girls become legally

accountable for their actions six years before boys. Boys are accountable for their crimes at 15 but for girls it is nine. The effect, Ebadi emphasized, is that a nine-year-old girl is treated the same as a 40-year-old person.

"But a nine-year-old and a 40-year-old cannot be compared in terms of maturity and awareness," she said.

Ebadi expanded further on the plight of the Iranian people, saying that in addition to gender discrimination, people can only vote for electoral candidates first approved by the guardian council: a very powerful body of Iranian Islamic clerics. Those practicing religions other than Islam are treated as second-class citizens, and 90 newspapers have been suspended in the last two years, their journalists thrown in prison.

To a chorus of applause, Ebadi praised those now imprisoned for their continued fights for freedom.

"You who live in Canada cannot be indifferent to these violations of human rights," she said, her voice strained with force, as she demanded that the international community take action against global atrocities.

"Globalization has also globalized war and peace... Therefore, if you are interested in living in a world away from war and violence, you have to combat them, be it in your country or anywhere else in the world."

"We have to consider the share others have in the dreams we make our own... Let's be as furious and destructive as fire against ignorance and prejudice. Let's be kind to one another; let's be kind."

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- *Acing the Interview for Students in Arts:*
Thursday, November 18, 2004, 3:30 – 5 pm, 4-02 SUB
- *Career Selection for Students in Arts:*
Saturday, November 20, 2004, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, 2-702 SUB

Workshops for Students in Education:

- *Creating a Teaching Application Package:*
Thursday, November 4, 2004, 3:30 – 6:30 pm, 4-02 SUB
- *Building a Teaching Portfolio:*
Monday, November 8, 2004, 4 – 6 pm, 4-02 SUB
- *Looking for Teaching Positions:*
Saturday, November 27, 2004, 10 – 11:30 am, 4-02 SUB
- *Building a Teaching Portfolio:*
Saturday, November 27, 2004, 12:30 – 2:30 pm, 4-02 SUB

Pre-register at CaPS, 2-100 SUB.

If there is no workshop scheduled for your area of study or if you cannot make the one as scheduled, you can register in any workshop and you will receive the handout materials for your area of study. To organize a workshop for students in your area of study, e-mail amber.nicholson@ualberta.ca.

Check the CaPS website at [HYPERLINK "http://www.ualberta.ca/caps"](http://www.ualberta.ca/caps) www.ualberta.ca/caps for more information such as fees.



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STREETERS

Compiled and photographed
by Chloé Fedio and Matt Frehner

The provincial election
was called this Monday,
and is slated for
22 November.

What do you think is
the most important
issue voters face?



Tania Rizwan
Engineering PhD

Education, for sure. I think the government doesn't spend enough time or money on education. There isn't enough funding to do research, or even to hire teachers, professors, TAs. There's a lot of potential for the students of Alberta, for the younger people of Alberta, but a lot of people can't get in because the class sizes are fixed there isn't enough money to increase the class sizes.



Sarah Tippe
Education I

The biggest election issue will be Education. I think it is the most important thing in the province.



Denis Schile
Engineering IV

Probably healthcare is going to be one of them. I think there's pretty split opinions between the people who want it to be privatized and the people who want it to be still owned by the government. That's going to be an important issue because there are so many people on either side.



Sue Kupper
Science III

Probably [the biggest question is] what to do with the debt-free surplus and education and health care. I think, probably now that we were debt-free the big question would be what to do with our surplus and I think one of the top priorities for that is healthcare and education. So, there will be a lot of debate about using the surplus for those problems, I guess.



SEXUAL VIOLENCE IS OPPRESSION March organizer Cassie Oxenford.

City to have first Take Back the Night march in a decade

U of A volunteers and Women's Centre
collaborating to bring annual march back to city

NATASHA CLIMENHAGA
News Writer

For the first time in ten years, Edmontonians will have an opportunity to march against rape, sexual assault, and violence towards women.

The Take Back The Night march is being reinstated by a group of University of Alberta student volunteers in collaboration with the Women's Centre and will run on Wednesday, 27 October, beginning at 6:30pm at City Hall.

"[Take Back The Night] is about reclaiming a space that we really feel should be safe to women all the time, which is not always the case," said University of Alberta student and Women's Centre volunteer Marta Rzechowka.

The candle-lit march will run from City Hall to Mary Burdie Park in Edmonton's inner city and back again, followed by refreshments and two keynote speakers who will discuss the issues surrounding violence towards women.

During the wheelchair-accessible march, a moment of silence will take place at Mary Burdie Park. The park was named after a local activist and is also a memorial to the 14 female engineering students who were murdered in the École Polytechnique massacre on 6 December, 1989 in Montréal by irate gunman, Marc Lépine.

According to Rzechowka, Mary Burdie Park, which has a tree dedicated to every victim, should be a place where women can safely gather, but ironically they can't because the park has become a very "sketchy" place.

"We just think there is something inherently wrong with that," Rzechowka said.

By including sex-trade worker-activist Monica Valiquette and Shirley Armstrong from Breaking the Silence, an Aboriginal organization fighting domestic and sexual violence as the keynote speakers, the event's organizers hope to draw attention to a wide range of issues relating to women's rights violations.

"We really focused on bringing

people from all different kinds of marginalized groups," Rzechowka said.

"The march is welcome to everyone," she explained, adding that the fight against violence towards women is not a feminist issue but something that affects both sexes.

"Good men are out there and good men are one of the keys to solving and helping bring this issue to rest," Rzechowka stressed.

According to statistics from the Canadian Council on the Status of Women, half of Canadian women (51 per cent) have been victims of at least one act of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16. According to Cassie Oxenford, a U of A student who organized a Take Back the Night workshop in September, people need to be more aware of the troubling statistics surrounding aggression against women.

"[Take Back the Night] is about reclaiming a space that we really feel should be safe to women all the time..."

**MARTA RZECHOWKA,
TAKE BACK THE NIGHT ORGANIZER**

"The incidence of violence against women has actually been increasing," Oxenford said.

In fact, Amnesty International recently criticized Canada for its poor protection of Aboriginal women, who represent one of the most victimized groups of women in Canadian society.

"This is Canada being criticized by Amnesty International! I think that's a really big sign that we're not doing as much as we could be," Oxenford said.

Oxenford hopes more people will begin to take notice of violence against women and its presence in our society as an issue that affects everyone.

"Violence against women is a form of oppression and oppression is something that is perpetuated and affects everybody," Oxenford said.

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Tuesday, November 2, 2004

Developing a Business Plan that Works!

Wednesday, November 3, 2004

Enhancing Your Employability Through Volunteering

Friday, November 5, 2004

Can I take a test to tell me what to do with the rest of my life?

Monday, November 8, 2004

Career Tips for First Year Students

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

Labour Market Trends and Research

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

Putting Your BEd to Work Outside of the Classroom

Monday, November 15, 2004

Times

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 12:05-12:50 pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 12:35 - 1:20 pm

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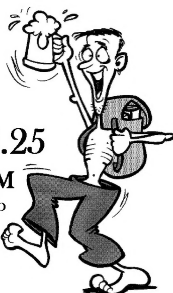
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NAIT student creates software, website to foster democratic change

HANNA NASH
News Writer

Blending student and global issues with computer software, NAIT student Jordan Schroder is hoping to change the face of democracy.

Although the software for his idea isn't available yet, Schroder, along with a number of other individuals, has created an Internet website called Development Community at www.plebsite.net as a precursor to their software. Through their website, they encourage people to voice their opinions and vote on issues posted on the site, including the national election in the United States.

Schroder said that his software is dedicated to addressing issues that affect people individually and globally. This software will initially target students on campuses such as the University of Alberta, Grant MacEwan College, and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) before expanding to different segments of the population. It will provide a network to allow existing groups and communities that encourage democratic thought to discuss issues that affect them.

He also hopes that the software will be a vehicle for connecting people, and will make them aware of the ways they can impact society democratically. Different topics will be available for discussion, upon which people can vote on the website. By becoming better informed, Schroder hopes that people will use their knowledge to affect change.

"It's not enough to simply have

SETTING HIS SITES ON DEMOCRACY Website creator Jordan Schroder. MIKE OTTO

access to these issues and vote on them, because an uninformed vote is almost worse than a non-vote. A big part of this is a whole community framework," said Schroder.

"Hopefully, it'll start at the U of A and spread to other campuses, expand into local cities, become province-wide, develop nationally, and then perhaps even internationally."

Additionally, the software will include links to articles in the media related to specific topics.

"In one page, you'll be able to see the U of A's page about tuition increases and automatically have links to all of the local and regional media that have articles and information about that. So you can become informed and access discussion forums about that issue, and hopefully vote on it using the software," explained Schroder.

In order to make his software successful, Schroder's plan is to ultimately

produce it in a variety of versions to allow anyone to become informed about different issues affecting them.

"Eventually, we really want to have a version of the software that we distribute through seniors' homes that deals with issues that affect seniors. To get a real consensus, you have to target everyone. It's really about making it accessible to every person," said Schroder.

Schroder stressed that in producing this software, he hopes people will be aware of the change that can come about through democratic means.

"We shouldn't feel as though we're the victims of various forces in the world. My view is that democracy isn't this thing that happens once every four years, which is what it's been marginalized into. It's been backed into this corner where it's just simply voting. Change is possible and we have power in numbers," said Schroder.

Companies must meet new guidelines for natural health products within six years

COLDPIX • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Health Canada will also regulate the labelling of all NHPs.

"You will see the dosage that you can take per day, the use that it is intended for, any risk associated with taking the product, any adverse reaction known and the ingredients," said LaLonde.

These regulations are the first Canadian guidelines for NHPs, and they apply to all NHPs sold in Canada.

"Prior to 1 January, 2004, NHPs weren't defined as a category on their own: they were either considered a food or a drug. They are, in fact, neither one of those; that's how the regulations came into effect. Now natural health products are in a category of their own," explained LaLonde.

Although Health Canada has not issued any NPN numbers yet, they hope to have the process streamlined for all NHPs in the next six years.

Basu emphasised the need for regulation in the NHP industry.

"One of the flaws of these natural health products is that they are not standardized; consumers do not know what they are buying. There is tremendous variation."

"There should be some regulatory mechanisms, and an NPN number is a starting point because in order to get the number you'll have to provide evidence that it is standardized and consistent," explained Basu.

Shan is confident that her company's use of solid clinical research to prove that ColdPix does help to prevent colds will give them an advantage in the NHP market under the new regulations.

Using technology called a chem-

MORE EFFECTIVE THAN 'DR MOM' Testing of ColdPix proves it works. BRIE TSE

bioprint, CV Technologies is able to ensure that their product is consistent from batch to batch. That means that consumers can be sure that the ingredients in ColdPix are always present in the same concentration.

"This ensures that when people are taking it, every batch produces the same type of results each time," explained Shan.

The regulation of NHPs like ColdPix will not only help to ensure that NHPs

on the market are safe for Canadians, it will also provide them with easily accessible information on the products they are purchasing.

"It is very important to consumers because it is telling them that the product that they are purchasing is safe and effective. All NHP products that have an NPN number will have labels that contain a lot more information than what they have now," LaLonde said.

OPINION

opinion@gateway.alberta.ca • tuesday, 26 october, 2004

We need a lot more than lawn signs

SURE, I "HEART" POSTSECONDARY education and all the promise of opportunities—both present and future—it offers. And I most definitely "heart" the idea that a university education should be something that's financially accessible to students. But in my time as a postsecondary student I've never particularly come to "heart" the various tactics by which us ever-loving students have tried to convince the government and the general non-postsecondary-education-enthusiast population of an accessible university education's merits.

Not to say that I have anything in particular against any past attempts—from letter campaigns to media stunts to concerts in Quad—it's just that historically all tactics have failed at their ultimate objective: preventing a tuition increase.

Last Wednesday, the SU officially announced its latest campaign in the battle to make postsecondary education a provincial priority: "Universities Matter," which will distribute lawn signs—cheekily designed to ape the ubiquitous "I heart Alberta beef" logo with the new message of "I heart Alberta postsecondary education"—and other logo-emblazoned paraphernalia in the hopes of influencing both candidates and voters to make funding for postsecondary education a top priority in the upcoming election.

The signs themselves are clever, and any quick walk around the greater University area will reveal they're catching on—signs are appearing on lawns and in apartment windows, making for a subtle although perhaps eventually unavoidable statement. And as for the idea of getting the message out just before the real push of provincial election campaigning begins, "Universities Matters" certainly has its heart in the right place.

But like so many campaigns before it, this latest gimmick could very easily fall short of its objective. A nicely-designed rambler featuring hearts and mortarboards really doesn't signify much to anyone outside of campus if there isn't a recognizable movement behind it.

The SU is starting to show rumblings of such a movement. It's announced several events as part of the campaign—a rally to the legislature, an activist-student bake sale—that they hope will bring some meaning and momentum to their lawn-sign strategy. Mind you, they're also events which are more or less variations on past attention-grabbing themes, and, if past gimmicks have proven anything, tuition increases are still as much of a beloved January tradition as -30C temperatures.

What "University Matters" needs is student support, and not just in the form of hundreds of undergrounds Scotch-taping "I heart postsecondary education" signs in the windows of their drafty basement apartments. No matter what attention-grabbing events the SU might organize, the biggest thing the signs represent is their students themselves, and without their presence and voices telling the public and government how funding for education will affect them, no message can ever get through.

It's only with strong organization and plenty of student support that I'll admit to "hearting" these signs. Without a clear and intelligent public voice to relate them to, they're no more meaningful than garden gnomes.

LEAH COLLINS
Editor-in-Chief

Copps should skip the sour grapes

SHEILA, WHAT'S GOING ON? Are you upset at Lil' Marty for that stunt he pulled by unseating you in good ol' Hamilton Stoney Creek? Yeah? Well, kiddo, I think it's time to move on.

This is one of those situations whereby your accusations just come off as sour grapes. You say Lil' Marty wanted to mess with the Canada Health Act? Well, everyone else says you're wrong. Maybe it's a giant everyone-hates-Sheila conspiracy, or maybe you need to ditch those sour grapes and snack on the sweet, sweet apple of nobody cares anymore.

ADAM ROZENHART
Editor-in-Chief

LETTERS

'Stupid' Steve Smith fires back

I feel I must point out a number of minute details about small things that appeared in Kristen Logan's letter of 21 October, "Stupid Steve Smith needs to shut up."

First of all, she calls my opinions "robotic." "Robotic" is defined by dictionary.com as "relating to or characteristic of a mechanical device that sometimes resembles a human and is capable of performing a variety of often complex human tasks on command or by being programmed in advance." Such an entity cannot, by definition, have opinions, so there is clearly no such thing as a "robotic opinion."

Next, she ascribes to me a belief that residence students and varsity athletes are victims of discrimination on campus. In fact, I have never claimed any such thing, and was a major proponent of removing their seats from Students' Council. Then, to ingratiate myself to them further, I tried to take away varsity athletes' Legacy Fund.

In conclusion, so's your old man.

STEVE SMITH
Business Concilor

Aboriginal tuition was not 'free'

I am writing this in response to Cosanna Preston's article, "Aboriginal students to be taxed for tuition" (21 October). I believe that Ms Preston and other writers need to be aware of their word choices.

Ms Preston writes, "The change is a surprise to Aboriginal students who have received free and untaxed tuition in the past." This tuition is not free and it most certainly will not be "free" if it has to be declared as income. Free is something that you receive without paying for it. Aboriginal peoples have paid for their tuition and other funding that they may be eligible to receive. It was paid for on the backs of Aboriginal ancestors. It was paid for with the signing of a document.

Anything that Aboriginal peoples may be eligible to receive has been bought and paid for. It was not and has not ever been free. Aboriginal peoples allowed others to live on their land and in their country. This was the transaction. Non-Aboriginal peoples were welcomed into this land and Aboriginal peoples were given certain privileges. That's what happened. That's what it's not free.

L BRICE
Education/Native Studies V

Paul Owen has never truly known love

The Gateway has printed a lot of offensive material over the years, but I have never been as offended by any article as Paul Owen's "opinion" in Thursday's issue ("Send your high-school sweetheart packing," 21 October).

Mr Owen is obviously ignorant of the true, lasting relationships that can come out of being high-school sweethearts. My fiancée and I, being

high-school sweethearts, have been together for five years (and we are from Ponoka, Paul). Despite the fact that she has been at the University of Lethbridge for three and a half of those, and myself here, we have never been closer, and I cherish the thought of us spending the rest of our lives together when we finish school.

I can only conclude that Mr Owen was mistreated by his high-school crush, otherwise he might have remembered that not all of these are shallow and meaningless relationships. There is more to life than "fun," so if you found that special someone at high school, don't give them up just because the pool sold that is Paul Owen believes your relationship to be more worthless than his Saturdays at the Powerplant.

LEE CHANTAL
Political Science III

Storie may be a godless heathen, but he has a point

Despite being one of those religious people that James Storie characterizes as "cowardly, lazy and irresponsible," I am amazed to find myself agreeing with his conclusion that the government should not let faith issues influence legal concerns ("Government shouldn't recognize a religious bond," 21 October).

Separation of church and state is actually very important to some Christians, who after the fires of the Reformation realized that the Church would be far better off in a tolerant and impartial secular state than in a biased and sectarian one. Letting the state decide the definition of marriage means letting the majority (or sometimes just a vocal minority) force their views on the rest of us.

Whether you're pro-gay marriage or anti-gay marriage, the only way to prevent the government from telling you what you should think is to take the power to define marriage away from it.

MICHAEL BUTTRY
Science III

Meal cards have no place in the 'Plant

For shame the Students' Union would advocate and then implement a policy of using meal cards at the Powerplant! This is another item in the long line of actions that demonstrate this and other incarnations of the U of AS Students' Union are more concerned about the wants of residential students than the needs of commuter students.

By instituting the meal card policy, the SU has effectively taken the life blood out of the service industry. How does someone tip their server with a meal card?

The SU is often trying to "jazz up" the Plant, but their attempts have been more than misguided. How enthused would you be at work when you are overworked, understaffed, and taking the crap from the SU, whose major ad campaign was a tongue-in-cheek comment on your overall allegedly poor service?

The truth is the "Plant" employs students, students who use their wages to pay their tuition and support themselves and, in some cases, even their families. By making meal cards usable at the Plant, the SU is treating the establishment on the same level as an on-campus cafeteria, something it clearly isn't. Further, it perpetuates the stereotype that those servers should not be tipped, when in my opinion they deserve it more because of all the garbage they put up with each day from both sides of their job—customers and SU management alike. I often wonder if the SU forgets these students they employ when making such policies; I bet none of the servers live in Lister.

For those students who frequent the Plant, I have some advice: if you have a problem with your service or food, address it with your server; they will be more than happy to help you. I have, and am always pleased with the results. Don't think that you're sending a message by not tipping because in the end all that happens is experienced, highly-skilled for people leave the Plant, making way for rookies who make more mistakes, offer poorer service and eventually live up to the misconceptions

the SU currently perpetuates about the Powerplant. Further, save those meal cards for Lister, or CAB or Tim Horton's in ETLG; they have no place in the Powerplant.

MARK HOOSIEN
Business Graduate Student

Campus security overzealous at Ebadi lecture

How often does one have an opportunity to converse with a Nobel Peace Prize recipient? After Dr Shirin Ebadi's lecture on 21 October, I asked a question and she was in the middle of replying to me. Suddenly, I was yanked from behind and pulled aside.

The big man who yanked me aside said that he was from Campus Security and he had been told to do so. He cited security reasons that I was blocking Dr Ebadi's path. I was neither a security threat, nor blocking her path. In fact, I was walking with her along with many other people. True, Campus Security has a job to do, but yanking someone while the person is in a middle of a reply from a Nobel Peace Prize recipient is rude and offensive. You could do your job and be more polite in doing so, especially as an event like this, a lecture on peace!

NADEER BEHZAD
Edmonton, Alberta

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.alberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words. Letters longer than 350 words will be met with apathy and anger by our illustrious editor.

Letters should also include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. My blog has a first name, it's O-P-I-N-I-O-N.



Tuition tax about equality



PAUL OWEN

A small but important step towards true equality in this country was made when the Canadian Revenue Agency announced that Aboriginal students would have their tuition declared a taxable benefit. For a country that claims to be a world leader in human rights and equal opportunity, Canada has done a poor job of treating its own inhabitants as equal. Basing taxable tuition on race, not monetary concerns, is unfair to those who struggle to pay for university but happen to be of the wrong skin colour. Just as there are some Caucasian or Asian students in financial need, there are surely some Aboriginal students who could afford the tax on their tuition. We need to stop government handouts based simply on culture.

A few hundred years ago, British colonialists gained control over the lands now called Canada. In doing so, they displaced people who had been living here for thousands of years and assimilated them. From then on, Aboriginal peoples were subject to British or Canadian laws and rule. Treaties were established, and at that time were necessary to prevent the indigenous cultures from being fully assimilated into those of the newcomers.

Now, though, the benefits Aboriginals receive only set them apart from the rest of the country. Whether or not they had a choice in becoming Canadian citizens isn't the issue. The fact is that they are, and they should be treated the same way

as every other Canadian. Immigrants who become citizens find themselves more equal than Aboriginals, and that is simply ridiculous.

Those who claim the benefits are compensation for allowing imperialists to enter this country are the same people who would claim that a child is a murderer simply because his or her parent was. Today's generation having to recompense for what people did 200 years ago is absurd. I'm not responsible for the actions of my father, let alone some ancient predecessor. Claiming that my tax money should go to benefit someone else because of what my ancestors did is a waste of that money.

By accepting government handouts, Aboriginal people accept that government as their own. Arguing that colonialists came in and took over lands is weight once there is a submission to the new government. I'm not saying that the treatment of Aboriginals in Canada was particularly right, only that they are now, for better or worse, an important part of Canadian society by their own choice. The problem lies in that Aboriginals were given rights as Aboriginals and that these rights take precedence over their rights as Canadians.

Taxation itself won't mean equality, but it is an important move in the right direction. Eliminating the idea of reserves and separation is another. We have such a cultural mosaic in this country already that there is no need for distance to keep cultures pure. There are equal hiring practices and equal opportunities for schooling. Our government needs to stop handouts based on culture and start treating an important part of Canadian culture as true Canadians and not a special sub-group.

Sudanese children wouldn't mind a midterm



CHELSEA GRIMBY

All university students talk about is how much stress school is: midterms and assignments are never-ending, nerves are frayed, and caffeine intake skyrockets as more and more work comes. But, in reality, students don't know what stress is, and we have no right to even mention how tough we have it. Even with amassing debt and bills and increasing tuition, we can't understand real stress.

Real stress is living in a country where the government is supporting militia groups that are killing your people. It's not knowing when the next bomb will be dropped on your village or if your husband and child will be killed and you will be raped and brutalized in the next raid. It's choosing between the security of a refugee camp or leaving to forage for food. If you stay, you can be protected from death by violence but risk death by disease and starvation. If you leave, even temporarily, you risk running into a militia group that will murder you if you're male or rape you if you're female. Stress is being a black resident in Darfur, a small area in Sudan that is being targeted for mass genocide by Arab militia groups known as the janjaweed.

All nations will agree that genocide is a bad thing, but we are never moved to action fast enough when it is happening. President Bush was in such a hurry to liberate the Iraqi people when they were under a "regime of

terror" but where is he when 30 000 to 50 000 people in Darfur have been murdered in the last year? Where is he when over 1.4 million citizens of Darfur have been relocated into refugee camps where there is not enough food and disease is rampant?

Not that I'm a Bush-basher, but listening to the presidential debates over the last few weeks, I want to know why they're focusing on the past and what a president might or might not have done about Iraq, especially when they could talk about what a president will do about a crisis that needs immediate attention like Sudan. Saddam may have been maintaining a regime of terror, but it was a quiet terror, and his estimated murder numbers are still only half of what is currently occurring in Darfur.

As the world population gets bigger and bigger, our bureaucracies seem to get less and less efficient. The UN is still deciding what to do about Sudan after their 30-day demand on the Sudanese government to disband the

militia went largely ignored. I believe in the UN and its goal to enforce peace globally, but they are such an ineffective body. I'm sure they must have a lot of red tape to get through, but why can't they mobilize a peace force to at least halt the violence until they make their decision? Why does it even have to be classified as genocide before the UN can act? Mass murder is mass murder, whether or not it is targeting an ethnic or racial group.

There is something obviously wrong in Sudan, but something is also amiss in the international community when genocide is ignored and peace organizations are reluctant to act. With the threat of murder, starvation, or death by disease in Sudan, worrying about midterms and tests and school seems meaningless. So next time you turn in your assignments, you need to do and the tests you need to study for, remember what your mother used to tell you about how children in Africa would love to have what you have.

THE BURLAP SACK

This beating goes out to all those parents who have no desire to control their children when going out in public.

When I'm plugging away at my meaningless minimum-wage job, the last thing that I want to have to do is walk behind your kid, picking up all of the crap that he tugs off the shelves and throws to the ground. Don't just laugh and tell him he's cute. He's not being cute, he's being a destructive little bastard, and unless you want him knocking off liquor stores later in life,

you've got to teach him that there are things you do, and things you don't do. Likewise, nobody wants to be standing in line at a checkout, listening to your twelve-year-old screaming so loud that car alarms are going off in the parking lot, all because you won't buy her a damned chocolate bar.

Unless you are going to at least attempt to keep a handle on your offspring, stay home. Or better yet, get in the sack.

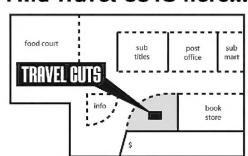
SCOTT LILWALL

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group is being ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are ethnically administered.

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Flu crisis is no time for petty bickering

SCOTT
LIWALL

At one time, Canada had a very respected position in the international community—something that we could all take pride in. In recent years, however, everyone from politicians to news anchors has been asking why Canada is losing that respect in the eyes of others around the world.

The answer is mind-numbingly simple. People around the world respected our country because it did respectful things, like providing aid after a natural disaster or peacekeeping in a troubled region. Later, however, it seems that Canadian citizens are less interested in looking out to see what good we can do in the world, and instead focusing on how we have been slighted.

Case in point: the flu vaccine shortage in the United States, where because of contamination during manufacturing, the US is short around 47 million doses of vaccine. The situation has gotten so bad down there that health-care workers actually face fines or even jail time for providing the vaccine to those who are not in high-risk groups. While for many of us the flu equals a week or so of aches, chills and a pile of seriously disgusting Kleenex on our nightstands, the disease can actually be a very serious one. In the United

States, the flu causes around 36,000 deaths a year, the majority of those elderly people and small children.

Given the fact that there's such a deficiency in the number of vaccines, as well as the potential danger of a very contagious disease, the response of Canadians has been a swift and heartwarming one: "What about our beef?" A great deal of Canadians have asked why the hell, if the US doesn't want to open up their borders to our beef, or if they won't remove their unfair tariffs on our softwood, should we be expected to provide them with our surplus influenza vaccines? It should be damn obvious why: 36,000 deaths a year.

How cynical and selfish does one have to be to demand that the US open the border to Canadian beef in exchange for flu vaccinations? While there is no doubt that the beef ban is having a serious economic impact on many Canadians, Albertans in particular, it should have no relevance in a matter of public health. That's what this is about—these people are putting their economic interests before the physical well-being and lives of others. Traditionally, there has been a word for this: evil.

People have argued that the US has

no right to our surplus of flu vaccines, and they're correct. These are Canadian vaccines made by Canadian companies for injecting into Canadian arms. It would be well within our right to deny them to the US, but just because something is a right doesn't make it right. Under Canadian law, you have the right to stand on a street corner and yell racist remarks—it's legal, but you're still a fucking prick.

It is completely understandable to be angry at the US over their refusal to purchase Canadian beef or for placing tariffs on our softwood. Both are unfair, politically motivated actions designed to stimulate their economy at the expense of our own. But denying them our surplus vaccinations is not the way to go—after all, the majority of politicians responsible for those other actions have already had their flu shots. The only people we would be punishing would be those in dire need of the vaccination: the elderly and small children who may die from complications from the flu.

It's a simple equation. They are short of vaccinations and we have more than enough. Let's stop thinking about our own needs and focus on something much more important. Let's save some lives.

Soundwave superior, Constructions inferior



GATEWAY OPINION Making references you probably don't get since 1910



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Welcome to the hell that is midterm week, where booze is your only hope of escape

GRAHAM
LETTNER

My mother always said to do what you know. Well, I know booze. And midterms. To tell you the truth, they seem to go hand in hand. Just in case the early winter weather wasn't enough to puncture your already deflating feelings of optimism, as of yesterday the University has officially kicked off five consecutive days of communal suffering: that's right, mid-term week is once again upon us. With only next semester's midterm week as a potential rival, these five days are as highly anticipated as my mid-January enema appointment at the SUB Health Centre.

Unlike finals week, when Saint Nick is about to reward you with Aladdin on DVD and nothing but a half-month of sloth, gluttony and other deadly sins, once the sun sets on 29 October, another month of school will be waiting to roshambo you outside the doors of your last exam.

Whereas in December you are free to schedule study hours whenever you please, midterm week demands that you first make your three hours of morning classes, meet with Wes and Peter to finish your group economics project, proofread your chemistry lab report and then squeeze in four-plus hours at the lab library before your neurons actually fuse together. And even when you catch a few nice profits who decide to put things off for a few days, your consolation becomes a follow-up week of doubled-up assign-

ments and twelve new deadlines that fall in a five-day spread. Add to this mix Murphy's Law that some jackass will have stolen the only Stats 235 textbook from the reserve section of Cameron, your parents will show up from out of town to drag you to your third-cousin's wedding, and that somehow your fridge will malfunction so that your \$100 of groceries now look like a tin of a forgotten cupboard in Bio Sci, and you've got yourself a week to remember, no matter what you take to forget it.

Then, when everything finally seems to be too much to handle, throw in my own personal favourite: those uppity bastards who seem to take a Wacko-Jacko-style perversion to publicly lamenting on how, no matter how tough your next week is, theirs is even worse. It's as if these people think that their skewed sense of pride in how horrendous their week is makes them deserving of a Girl Guide Courage badge and the applause of the other 30,000 of us. Well it's not, so write your exams in silence, tack up your straight-A+ transcript on your mom's fridge, and spare us all the play-by-play.

So, while the Student Distress Centre has their switchboard lit up like a Christmas tree, your lab report is overdue, two of your textbooks haven't shed their shrink wrap and your roommate just decided that his ant farm would thrive best if transplanted to the bathtub, remember the opening bit of wisdom I offered: midterms and booze fit together like O.J.'s left hand and his lucky black slapping glove.

So look for me this Saturday out for some end-of-midterm-week Halloween hoopla dressed as a bitter, ravaging, drunken mess.

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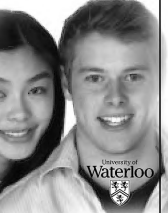
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DEVELOPING A TALENTED TRUTH

The toilet bowl could hold the key to your health



JESHIAN CHOWDURY

Shit. Crap. Poo. The last time you spoke about something or someone unfavorably, you probably referred to your feces. It would seem that our waste is not of any value. In fact, we think of our feces as something pretty—for lack of a better word—shitty.

But in actuality your feces are the shit, especially when it comes to your health. Staying healthy is no easy task.

We live in a society where it is convenient and cheap to be obese, unfit, and generally unhealthy. Despite all this, however, there are many ways for us to take responsibility for our health. For example, we've been told countless times to eat well and exercise.

However, although these actions improve health, we tend to ignore simple ways to monitor how healthy we are. Not to fret, though—there's a simple daily activity that is the key to your health. In fact, most of us probably already do it, but we're unwilling to admit it.

Looking before you flush is an excellent way to track your body's performance. If the eyes are the window to the soul, then the bottom of the bowl is the window to the inner workings of your body. Unfortunately, bodily wastes are not generally considered socially acceptable topics of conversation, and rightly so; a natural aversion to our waste is an important social convention—without it, we may be inclined to roll around in our own disease-infested filth. But these same



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: LEANNE FONG

THE LATEST POOP There's a whole world in your body revealed in your waste.

social norms that teach us to refrain from speaking about our natural bodily functions publicly also hinder our examination of an important measure of our health.

Our feces are actually the culmination of a number of complicated mechanisms that must work together quite precisely to produce a well-formed stool. Obviously, your digestive system is involved, but components of the nervous, endocrine or hormonal, and immune systems all play a part in processing food down to feces as well.

A problem in any one of these areas will be reflected in the toilet bowl, and thus simply taking a quick look before flushing—"proof" flushing," if you will—can give you a good idea if there is anything wrong with you.

What exactly should you be looking for? Rather than getting into the snelly details, any reoccurring changes in frequency, consistency, and colour should be noted. A number of serious

medical conditions can show up first in your bowel movements. Being able to tell your doctors will give them a better insight into what is going on.

Whatever goes in eventually comes out, and along the way your body performs a choreography of muscle contractions and secretions that all conclude in forming what ends up in the toilet. Examining the bowl with a quick glance is an easy way to make sure nothing's wrong with your plumbing, and also to ensure you're putting the right nutrients into the system.

And just a quick look for yourself, please—no need to become one of those disgusting people who leave their specimens unflushed for the rest of us to see. Nor is there any need to discuss your natural bodily functions if you're too embarrassed. But, if you can't bring yourself to look, then you may be dying and not even know it. So the next time you visit the porcelain throne, take a look, for the sake of your health.

Bush, Kerry not black and white



ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

The entire world should be watching the American election. As Americans get set to choose the leader of the free world, they are faced with two polar opposites—a war-mongering, right-wing Republican elephant in the form of George W. Bush, and a friendlier, happier Democratic donkey in the form of John Kerry. Each represents exactly what the other isn't.

Or that's the hype, anyway. The reality, though, is far different—the supposed differences between John Kerry and George W. Bush aren't as black and white as people like to think. In fact, each man resembles more of a horrible, bland shade of grey.

For four years, the world has had the chance to sample the elephant's shade of grey and has clearly not liked what it has seen. Bush has been aloof from important allies, arrogant and uncompromising in all his dealings, making this way or the highway. Add to that his right-wing and conservative Christian ideology and Bush has clashed with the liberal-democratic views of allies and Americans alike.

However, for liberal-democratic Americans, Kerry isn't the best choice either—that would be Ralph Nader. But, since Kerry is a Democrat, he lacks the overly right-wing views and conservative Christian nature of Bush and presents a better option for all those fearing Bush's policies. This doesn't mean that Kerry has no substantial flaws—in fact, he has just as many as

Bush, including ones that should be of great concern to Canadians.

In his talks to agricultural, forestry, and other groups, Kerry has reiterated his support for protectionist trade policies that ensure jobs stay in the US. Depending on his audience, this has meant that he supports punitive duties when Canada tries to export softwood lumber, won't let a live Canadian cow across the border until they're all proven safe, or allow any other moves that could hurt American workers. It seems that even under Kerry we'd still be receiving the shaft in our economic relationship, just from a new face.

Even on foreign policy and military issues, the ass would kick ours. Sure, the missile defense shield would be cut, but in the post-11 September era our lax immigration and military standards will come under fire no matter who occupies the Oval Office. Even Iraq would remain a problem, because Kerry is looking to bring more allies to help steady the country, and if he asked for Canada's help he could bring down our rickety minority parliament.

The fact is that in American politics, the struggle this time around is between a known future—however rotten with Bush—and Kerry, whose main selling point is: "I fought in a war before a good number of you were born ... and I'm not Bush." Not exactly a magnificent set of options or, for that matter, even a good one.

This election is not the choice between Stalin and Churchill some have been making it out to be, as both Bush and Kerry are closer on many issues than they will admit. None of this bodes well for the world, and Canada in particular, because regardless of whether it's a donkey or an elephant sleeping next to us, we'll still be trampled by them and their policies.



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TREVOR PANAS

respectively. This means that for a family of four living in Alberta earning \$30 000 dollars a year, they must contribute \$12 000 that, among other things, will go towards \$3500 worth of community improvements for a family of two earning \$150 000 per year in PEI.

The last thing that our province needs is to relinquish more control of our economy and our provincial affairs to the leeches on Parliament Hill.

Most people don't like pain. Some of the citizens of Alberta, on the other hand, seem to get their rocks off by being whipped into submission by a barrel-chested dominatrix from Ottawa—just witness some of our fellow Albertans insisting that we somehow need to contribute even more to the rest of our fair country.

The last thing that our province needs is to relinquish more control of our economy and our provincial affairs to the leeches on Parliament Hill. Spread the wealth around? Anyone from Alberta who has taken even a brief moment to investigate how tax money is distributed in this nation will either become nauseous or violently angry—or, if they're of the masochistic inclination, they will immediately place their hands down their sweatpants and retreat to the nearest dark corner of Rutherford Library.

You see, this year in Canada exactly two provinces—Alberta and Ontario—will contribute to the federal equalization payment pool, while the other eight provinces and three territories are on the receiving end. No big deal; everybody likes a good spanking, right? According to Stats Canada, Alberta contributes just under \$3000 per capita to this fund. On the handle end of the flagellation whip, provinces like PEI and New Brunswick receive \$1776 and \$1537 per capita

unspeakably and worked long hours in physically demanding jobs.

The point is we have made sacrifices in areas that other people in other provinces have been unwilling to make, and if we must suffer the consequences of these decisions, we should at least be entitled to the tainted fruits of our labours. Other provinces, which are not as directly affected by the negative impacts of our economic policies, should thus not be entitled to the benefits that follow.

The citizens of other provinces have, in many instances, refused to sacrifice their environment and their social values for economic prosperity, and these provinces should be commended for their long-term vision and self-restraint.

However, for better or worse, the citizens of Alberta have consistently demonstrated through their decisions at the ballot box that they prefer resource royalties and a lucrative job market over environmental conservation and sustainable lifestyles. The wisdom of this decision is dubious at best, but the point is that Albertans should at the least be able to reap what they have sown, both good and bad, because you can be damn sure that the day the oil dries up so too will the transfer program, and Alberta will not be receiving any assistance from those to whom we were previously so generous.

So next time you hear a fellow Albertan pining for increased federal control of our province, or waxing poetic about how we should contribute more to the rest of Canada than we already do, give them a good, sound whipping—after all, they'll probably like it.

Sherwood Park is everything wrong with society



DAVID BERRY

"It would take nuclear testing on an elementary-school playground to get Sherwood Park citizens out of their faux-finished, replica-floor plan castles, and even in that case it would probably only be to complain about the momentary interruption to the power grid."

Every so often, I get the chance to visit the Elysian fields of my youth. Or, in my case, the desolate wasteland of treeless, asphalt-strewn parking lots surrounded by big-box stores and car dealerships that "cut the mustard" of my youth. See, I spent my formative years in Sherwood Park or, as I've come to call it, "the reason there is no hope for humanity."

Now, of course, people have been complaining about the suburbs for years—the blatant urban sprawl, the complete lack of soul, the fact they're populated almost entirely by yuppies and bored teenagers addicted to meth; the list goes on. But, while Sherwood Park certainly has all of this in spades, it has so much more.

Sherwood Park is the über-suburb; it's what every other suburb in the world can only ever aspire to be. There is no more soul-sucking, expansionist, smash-the-foundations-of-common-decency slicked-up shit-hole on the face of the earth—the laws of nature simply wouldn't allow it.

Take, for example, the urban sprawl example. Whereas most other suburbs are, at the very least, bound by rules of common sense in their destruction of natural areas—though Mill Woods was built after developers filled in a swamp, they were at least smart enough to leave the actual river valley that runs through that area alone—Edmonton's neighbourhood to the east apparently just likes to

play with heavy machinery, letting it loose whenever possible.

Witness, for instance, the fact that a former Kmart building sat vacant for more than five years while no less than eight other big-box stores were dropped unceremoniously into formerly wooded areas. They showed such complete and utter disregard for common sense they actually paved the area right beside the old fackin' Kmart to make room for yet another store.

But, of course, everywhere has a little urban sprawl. What everywhere doesn't have, though, is the highest rate of asthma in North America, and for that matter, most of the developed world.

See, due to the fact that Sherwood Park sits due south of Refinery Row, its citizens tend to inhale their fair share of nicely toxic chemicals, obviously to the point where it seriously affects their ability to breathe. Normally this would be caused for people to complain a bit, or maybe even move to a place that wasn't slowly poisoning them and making it difficult for Little Johnny to play in all those after-school sports. Sherwood Parkians, however, have not once raised a peep.

And why should they, really, when those sweet, sweet corporate taxes are keeping their property taxes low and occasionally buying the rights to name a hockey rink? What's a little shortness of breath compared to the new TV that

extra money might buy?

This, of course, points to what is really the biggest problem with this super-suburban pre-apocalyptic wasteland: the fact that not a single solitary one of its citizens ever seems to realize what they're doing to the fabric of society as a whole.

Even St Albert, Edmonton's other pathetic sister, managed to kick up a fuss when plans were announced to put a freeway through a popular wetland a few years ago. It would take nuclear testing on an elementary-school playground to get Sherwood Park citizens out of their faux-finished, replica-floor plan castles, and even in that case it would probably only be to complain about the momentary interruption to the power grid. Never mind the fact that suburbanites are generally running from the problems of a big city; these people would barely deal with what was going on in their backyard if their motorhome wasn't parked there.

Now, obviously, Sherwood Park has some redeeming qualities—it produced me, for one, and it's better than letting those people loose into real society—but these more a result of the law of averages than anything its citizens have done to help.

That said, these faults are nothing a little nuclear testing couldn't fix. The best part is, they'd never even complain about it.



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TOUR OF DEATH

A feature by **Kristine Oworm**
Photos by **Leanne Fong**

Just before the first snowfall,

I walk through the Edmonton Cemetery after dark. The only sounds punctuating the still night air are the dead leaves crunching underfoot and the occasional beating of a bat's wings close overhead.

I'm not nervous, but as I wander among the gravestones, I recall the sign I saw on the gate on the way in: "Caution: open graves. Please stay on path." My friends have wandered off somewhere, and I can't help but wonder what would happen if I actually fell into an open grave. Would I have to lie there until morning? Would gravediggers really leave a coffin unburied overnight?

Luckily, I didn't have to spend the night in the company of a corpse. I did, however, spend a couple of hours with a flashlight reading inscriptions on gravestones and imagining the chilling stories that such a large, old graveyard must hold the keys to.

Inspired by historian Kathryn Ivany's local tour book, *Historic Walks of Edmonton*, my friends and I decided to spend an evening checking out the oldest graveyard in the city with the help of her "Edmonton Cemetery Tour," a section of the book dedicated entirely to the history of the graveyard, including a map and a tour designed to point out some of the cemetery's more interesting sites.

According to Ivany, whose interest in local history stemmed from her involvement in the Edmonton and District Historical Society where she has worked for several years conducting graveyard tours, a cemetery can hold many secrets to a city's history that just can't be found elsewhere.

"If you want to tell a history of people that really haven't done anything significant like had a building named after them or a neighbourhood named after them, the only real tangible evidence of most people's lives is a headstone," explains Ivany. "You can tell a lot of stuff about Edmonton's history just by looking at its oldest cemetery."

This fact quickly becomes apparent upon walking through the Edmonton Cemetery. Besides the gravestones of some of Edmonton's more famous citizens, the cemetery contains many other fascinating tributes to the city's history, including a large children's section designed for children who died before their parents and therefore had no family plot, as well as a military field of honour complete with a large Cross of Sacrifice, created for servicemen and veterans of all branches of the Canadian and allied armed forces.

However, while these are intriguing aspects of the tour, Ivany points out that sometimes it's the individual tombstones that provide the most chillingly fascinating stories.

"There are a number of things that are only hinted at on the headstones," she says. "One of the researchers who was working with me discovered this stone where it described the death of this woman as a 'terrible accident,' and when we looked at her obituary and the story surrounding it, there was obviously something that was going on that nobody was willing to talk about."

"There are lots of mysteries in the cemetery," she adds. "We found one fellow who was supposedly cleaning his gun and managed to kill his wife and child who were standing next to him. Or somebody just showed me that there's a set of Siamese twins who died being separated in the '50s."

A quick walk around any section of the Edmonton Cemetery confirms Ivany's assertion: it's the individual stones belonging to people long dead and forgotten that sometimes provide hints of the most interesting and unnerving stories.

One of the first stones I encounter is a statue of a small, angelic-looking child, desecrated by weather or vandals or both, resting on top of the grave of one Douglas Earl Davis. Douglas, a boy who died at the age of four in 1917, is buried with an accompanying inscription that reads: "Our darling has gone to the angels to yon / We miss his bright face and heavenly smiles / But God's will was done so we must prepare / To meet darling Douglas in heaven so fair."

Resting against the statue are a marble horse's head and a Power Puff Girls keychain—a sign, I suppose, that the death of a young child almost 90 years ago still has the power to move people enough to leave him gifts for the afterlife.

Another gravestone contains the simple message: "In memoriam. Ethel J McCallum, beloved wife of David Dewar Penman, who died at Edmonton on Sunday, April 5, 1914, aged 33 years. Also two babies, March 15, 1914."

As illustrated by this particular gravestone, and as Ivany points out, interesting aspects of Edmonton's medical history can also be discerned from walking around the city's graveyards. For example, she explains, evidence of smallpox and measles epidemics in 1907, the Spanish influenza in 1918, and polio epidemics in 1925 and 1941 can be found by examining the dates on the headstones in the children's section of the Edmonton Cemetery.

As well, much can be discovered about the medical history of childbirth and society's attitudes towards the death of babies and young children with engravings such as the quotation from the Book of Revelations found on one stone where a baby, who died at six months, is buried with its mother, who died soon afterwards: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more

death," it reads.

On a less morbid note, Ivany explains that another fascinating aspect of Edmonton's cemeteries is the design and architecture of the older stones.

"Sometimes [while conducting a tour] I just stop because the stone is so beautiful," she explains. "The stones that are now mostly carved out of black granite are fairly standard, whereas before the 1930s people could do almost anything with their stones. The Edmonton Cemetery is lovely in that sense: there's marble angels and lots of draped urns and things like that which are absolutely beautiful."

Interesting architectural highlights of the Edmonton Cemetery tour include a large mausoleum built in 1915 for the Young family and designed to hold six crypts, a huge brick cairn (over 2.4 metres tall) built by the owner of the Edmonton Brickyard Company for his wife in 1912, and several prominent obelisks and crosses for some of the wealthier, more famous figures of Edmonton's history.

Vaguely disappointed that I didn't find any open graves, I find my friends and we prepare to leave the Edmonton Cemetery. We avoid the path to see if we can find any more interesting tidbits of local history among the headstones on our way out.

As we near the gate, the beam from my flashlight happens to land on one particular stone that captures my attention. It is a cross carved to look like it is made out of the gnarled wood of an old tree. One part is cracked down the middle, and it is covered in moss and cobwebs. The two people buried underneath it died in 1907 and 1926, respectively. I can't help but wonder what their stories are as I leave the graveyard and re-enter the brighter, more modern version of Edmonton waiting outside the cemetery gates.



EDMONTON CEMETERY FACTS

• Located on 118 Street and 107 Avenue.

• The Edmonton Cemetery was the first public graveyard in the city. It was created in 1886 from 2.4 hectares of Hudson's Bay Company land. This land was donated by Richard Hardisty, chief factor for Fort Edmonton, who also happened to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Cemetery Company.

• Records were not well kept for the first few years, but it is supposed that a number of bodies were transferred from other graveyards in and around the Edmonton area, as some of the headstones predate the cemetery's formation.

• Originally created with room for 4000 graves, it was realized by the end of World War I that the cemetery would have to be expanded. In the process of this expansion, the Cemetery Company worked with the city, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Department of Veteran Affairs, the Department of National Defense, and the Last Post Fund to create the military field of honour, which included free plots for veterans and a 67 metre-high Cross of Sacrifice in the centre of the field.

• In 1924, North-West Mounted Police and Canadian Legion members were also granted free graves.

• A mausoleum was built in 1930, and a second military field was added in 1938, expanding the cemetery to include more than 16 hectares of land.

Some of the more prominent Edmontonians buried in the Edmonton Cemetery:

• Dr Herbert Charles Wilson (1859–1909), Edmonton's third physician. Wilson also sat on the Northwest Territorial Council and acted as first speaker from 1890–1891. He was elected mayor of Edmonton in 1898. He is buried with his son, Charles, who was killed inlanders in 1916.

• Malcolm Groat (1836–1912), who came from Scotland to take charge of Fort Edmonton's gardens and livestock. He was the first settler in the area to live outside the fort. Groat eventually sold his land to a developer from Montreal, who transformed it into the exclusive neighbourhood of Glenora. Named after him is Groat road and Groat bridge.

• Alex Taylor (1854–1915), the man who brought the telegraph, telephone, and electricity to Edmonton. He also published the city's first newspaper, the *Edmonton Bulletin*, with Frank Oliver.

• Frank Oliver (1853–1933), co-founder of the *Edmonton Bulletin*. He also sat as Wilfred Laurier's minister of the Interior from 1905–1911.

• Wilfred Reid "Wop" May (1896–1952), who won a distinguished flying cross for his service in World War I, and was one of the few pilots to survive a battle with the Red Baron.

Bears beat Huskies to clinch first



Players of the game

Receiver **Dustin Ralph** and running back **Jarred Winkel** combined to help the Bears offense cut through the Huskies' defense, arguably the best defense in the conference. Ralph caught nine passes for 118 yards and kept several drives alive in his last regular season game as a Golden Bear Winkel, meanwhile, ran for 120 yards on 18 carries despite missing a quarter after suffering a knee injury.

Box Score

First Quarter

02:22 ALB—Team safety
07:32 ALB—Beau Filkowski rouge
12:07 ALB—Jarred Winkel 10yd run (Beau Filkowski kick)

Second Quarter

06:49 ALB—Beau Filkowski rouge
13:12 SASK—Brad Ollen 31yd field goal

Third Quarter

07:51 SASK—Team safety
12:21 ALB—Bryce Coppieters 9yd pass from Darryl Salmon (Beau Filkowski kick)

Fourth Quarter

03:17 SASK—Nathan Hoffart 20yd pass from Steve Bilan (Brad Ollen kick)
07:28 ALB—Beau Filkowski 37yd field goal
13:06 SASK—Brad Ollen rouge

Regina	0	3	2	8	—	13
Alberta	10	1	7	3	—	21

	Sask	Alb
First downs	21	32
Yards rushing	-13	172
Yards passing	245	297
Team losses	0	6
Net offense	232	463
Passes made-ried	23-43	25-39
Return yards	97	55
Interceptions-yards from	0-0	1-0
Fumbles-lost	2-0	3-1
Sacks by	3	0
Punts-average	6-35.2	5-41.0
Penalties-yards	9-45	10-73
Time of possession	25-24	34-36
Field goals made-ried	1-2	1-3

Individual stats

RUSHING: Saskatchewan—Jeff Piercy 13-63; Steve Bilan 6-minus 9; Tyson Craigis 1-minus 6; Alberta—Jarred Winkel 18-120; Darryl Salmon 5-45; David Bissett 3-20; Dustin Ralph 1-minus 2; Beau Filkowski 1-minus 11.
PASSING: Saskatchewan—Steve Bilan 23-43-1-245; Alberta—Darryl Salmon 25-39-0-297.
RECEIVING: Saskatchewan—Aaron David 7-96; Jeff Schiemann 6-56; Drew Kendal 3-20; Nathan Hoffart 2-26; Jeff Piercy 2-19; Leighton Heron 2-14; Daniel Houle 1-14; Alberta—Dustin Ralph 9-118; Bryce Coppieters 7-72; Jason Moss 5-61; Matt Burrows 2-29; Jarred Winkel 1-13; Andrew Githier 1-4.

Attendance at Foote Field: 1352

VICTORY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As it has been throughout the season, Bears running back Jarred Winkel's presence was key to the effectiveness of the Bears' offense. For the first quarter and a half the Bears managed to move the ball seemingly at will while they raced out to an 11-0 lead, including a ten-yard run by Winkel that put him over 1000 yards rushing for the second season in a row.

However, when Winkel went down with an apparent knee injury midway through the second quarter, the Bears' offense began to stall as Saskatchewan was able to key on quarterback Darryl Salmon and the passing attack.

"Whenever you break a big run like that from your own side of the field, it's a big play and it's a play that can break the back of the opposition."

JARRED WINKEL,
GOLDEN BEARS RUNNING BACK

Winkel's return in the third quarter paid immediate dividends when he sprinted 74 yards on his second play back. That set up a nine-yard touchdown toss by Salmon to Bryce Coppieters that put Alberta up 18-5 and gave the Bears some breathing room on the scoreboard.

"Whenever you break a big run like that from your own side of the field, it's a big play and it's a play that can break the back of the opposition," said Winkel. "I'm really fortunate to play with the group of guys we have on the offensive line. They did a hell of a job today blocking and creating the holes and I can't say enough about the five up front. They did an awesome job today."

"Winkel is a threat just by him standing in the backfield," Friesen added. "As soon as he was out of the game they played strictly coverage and they were going to take Salmon away. Winkel comes back into the game and bingo: he makes a big play, changes the momentum and field position. That's the kind of player he is."

It wasn't just the offense that stepped up on Saturday, though. The Bears' defense stymied



YOU CAN'T CATCH ME Bears quarterback Darryl Salmon launches a pass in Saturday's big win.

a high-powered Huskies offense that averaged 34 points through its first six games. Bears line-backer David Lowry was a force, leading the way with seven tackles as the Bears held the Huskies to only 232 yards of offense.

"Our defense knows what we're capable of and

we've always felt that we can shut teams down if we all do our jobs," said Lowry. "When we struggle a little bit and people try and do a little too much, that's when we start giving up yards. But we played our game plan the way we wanted to and I think it worked out."

Bears looking forward to much-needed week off

Bye in last week of regular season offers a chance to heal after gruelling two-month stretch

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

Almost as if it were a gift in honour of their impressive first-place finish, the schedule-makers have graced the Golden Bears with a bye in the final week of the regular season—their first time off since 20 August.

Several Bears went down with injuries during Saturday's win over the Saskatchewan Huskies, and while most of them weren't serious—only rookie line-backer Scott Stevenson, who suffered a separated shoulder on the opening kickoff and will be out at least two weeks, is at risk of missing the Saturday, 6 November conference semi-final—the bye week is definitely a good chance for the team to recover from the pounding their two-month grind laid on them.

"Eight games in a row is tough," said Bears head coach Jerry Friesen, whose team faced opponents coming off a bye three times during those eight games. "When we looked at it, we knew it was going to be a long haul, but we just took it game by game, and now it's our turn to take a break."

While the Bears have been fortunate enough to evade serious injuries during their long stretch, it still took a large toll on them. Star running back Jarred Winkel returned to Saturday's

game after leaving in the second quarter with what looked like a serious knee injury, and even managed to pull off a 74-yard run on his second play back, but he was playing at less than 100 per cent.

"We've reached the first part of our destination. Now it's time for us to take our break, refuel our tanks, get healthy and go at it for another four games."

JERRY FRIESEN,
GOLDEN BEARS FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

"I had some problems pushing off; I didn't really have a lot of power," he said. "It's wrapped up pretty tight right now. It didn't really provide a lot of problems running-wise, but that final kick, that final full-on stride, I didn't have it in the second half."

According to Friesen, many Bears are in a similar situation right now, and the opportunity to take some time to heal is important as the team prepares to make a run for the Vanier Cup championship in November.

"We talked about this on 20 August, that it was going to be a long journey," he said. "We've reached the first part of our destination. Now it's time for us to take our break, refuel our tanks, get healthy and go at it for another four games."

With midweek week in progress, the break will also give the Bears players a much-appreciated chance to focus on classes.

"It's always good to get a chance to buckle down on some schoolwork," said line-backer David Lowry, a two-year science student. "When you're having a lot of success, it's hard to keep your mind focused on studies. Now's the time to get your work done and get a chance to catch up on those things."

While there are those who question the value of a bye week heading into the playoffs—take, for example, the so-called "curse" that has seen many first-place finishers in the CFL West lose the division final after a bye week—Friesen was adamant that the week off will be positive for his club.

"Some people say you've got to keep the momentum going, but we need a break right now," he said. "I think just getting healthy is the key. Once we're healthy, we've got an opportunity to bring all of our guns back a-buzzin'. I think it's something we can really take advantage of."

Perfect Pandas cruise to another Canada West rugby championship

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

The competition may be getting tougher, but the Pandas once again plowed through it this weekend in Lethbridge on the way to their sixth-straight Canada West rugby title.

With their 22-12 win over the UBC Thunderbirds in Sunday's final, the Pandas claimed the conference's only berth in the CIS national championship next month. But while they were undefeated in four games in the tournament and posted three shutouts, Pandas head coach Helen Wright said that her pre-tournament fears about a rougher ride for her team turned out to be justified. While the Pandas beat the Victoria Vikes 67-0 in a Saturday round-robin match, the Thunderbirds and host Lethbridge Pronghorns, who the Pandas beat later Saturday by a relatively slim 8-0 margin, provided a challenge for the perennial national champions.

"It gets harder every year," said Wright, who's led the Pandas to a 41-1-1 record in their six year existence.

"The competition in Canada West

is significantly more difficult [than in the past]. This time around, we were very worried about Lethbridge and UBC, and the closer scores kind of reflect that."

Lethbridge, last year's CIS silver medalists, entered Saturday's match desperate for a win in order to advance to Sunday's gold medal game after they'd suffered a 5-0 upset at the hands of the T-Birds on Friday. They employed a "mauling" defensive system that swarmed the ball carrier and kept the Pandas attack largely at bay.

"That mauling game just shuts you right down, so you have to reconsider your attack; if they're going to keep doing that to us, maybe we just need to kick overtop of their heads, which we ended up doing in the second half," said Wright. "That's not our personality. Our personality is to try and run with the ball. But when you're getting down to not being able to get past the maul, then you need to get overtop of those forwards."

While the Pandas had beaten the Thunderbirds 22-0 in Friday's round-robin match, Wright said her team was still quite nervous heading into

Sunday's gold-medal game. UBC has national team hooker Lesley McKenzie in its starting lineup, and as a result the Thunderbirds dominated scrums throughout the tournament. That meant that making tackles was generally the only way for the Pandas to get hold of the ball, making the match particularly physically demanding.

"Every time we scrummaged, they got possession, so in order for us to get possession we had to go out, tackle them and poach the ball," said Wright. "We've got rookies at that position, and they've got a national team player, so they were able to poach a lot of our possessions."

Entering their sixth season in CIS, the Pandas lost a host of players to graduation this year, but in Lethbridge the young squad proved themselves capable of carrying on the squad's winning tradition.

"I was pretty proud of their effort," said Wright. "This was our first team with about half rookies and half veterans, and I was pretty pleased with what they put on the field. We're happy with what those rookies are accomplishing."



OUTPACING THE HUSKIES Forward Danielle Bourgeois and the Pandas blew past Saskatchewan on the weekend.

Pandas stretch win streak to 85 games

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Writer

Apparently, the Pandas hockey team doesn't appreciate being given a run for their money. After a close 3-1 victory on Friday night over a Saskatchewan Huskies that gave the Pandas more trouble than they've seen in years, the Pandas found their form the next night with a resounding 8-0 thrumping of the Huskies for their 85th straight win in CIS play.

Alberta's woes in Friday's game spanned both ends of the ice. Defensively, they seemed to lack confidence in their own zone throughout the game as they faced pressure from the Huskies. Offensively, while the Pandas out-shot the Huskies by a wide margin, they didn't generate quality scoring chances, and Saskatchewan goaltender Chantale Tippet helped keep the game close with a series of excellent saves.

Unable to beat Tippet in the first period, it took a powerplay goal by forward Jennifer Newton in the second period for the Pandas to break the shutout. The Huskies were quick

to tie the game about three minutes later, and the Pandas needed a five-on-three advantage late in the period to regain the lead. Pandas assistant captain Delaney Collins-Pye assisted a third goal midway through the final period to cap off the 3-1 evening.

"From my perspective, we were getting all kinds of opportunities and it was getting quite frustrating that [Tippet] was just coming up with some home stops," said Pandas forward Kristen Hagg, who notched two assists on the night. "I just felt like it wasn't so much that they were stopping us as much [as] their goalie was."

Pandas head coach Howie Draper also voiced frustration after Friday's match.

"It was like we were banging our heads against a green brick wall," Draper said of Tippet's exploits. "I know that we can play better than what we did [Friday]."

As it turned out, Draper couldn't have been more right. The Pandas dominated in every aspect of Saturday's contest, outshooting the Huskies 45-11 en route to their eight-goal win. The

one-sided affair saw 13 Pandas make it onto the score sheet, with forward Lindsey Skelting leading the way. She was named the game's first star after notching two goals and an assist.

Saturday's strong effort was partially motivated by the pre-game ceremony honouring Pandas student-coach Phil Richter, who passed away this summer in a car accident.

"The goal of the team was to play for Phil, and I think we played a great game in Phil's honour," said Skelting after the game. "We miss him dearly, and there was a lot of emotion put into that win."

With such a strong performance on both ends of the ice, Draper had a hard time selecting the best part of Saturday's game for his team.

"The quality of decisions that our defence were making, I think that was probably the best aspect. A very close second would be the finish that our forwards had. We haven't had that yet this year. This is the first time that we actually saw it. I think the two combined really helped put the whole thing together," Draper said.

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Young Pandas impress with blowout wins at Hoopfest



JEFFREY GREENHAUS

HOOP IT UP Pandas guard Whitney Adams drives the ball during Hoopfest.

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Writer

You'll never hear a mother call her child ugly, and in sports, the coach-player relationship carries the same expectation. So this past summer when Pandas basketball head coach Trix Baker boasted that her seven new recruits would be immediate contributors to the program, it would have been reasonable to think she said it with that same never-say-ugly, mother-like mentality.

While Baker did the talking this summer, her roster has begun to back her up with their inspired play this weekend at Pandas Hoopfest. The Pandas finished the weekend with a 2-1 record, coming back from a seven-point loss Friday night to the Concordia Stingers with two impressive, lopsided wins over the York Lions and Trinity Western Spartans on Saturday and Sunday.

Facing a Concordia team with an experienced core, the Pandas struggled from the field, hitting only one of 17 three-point shots and missing many opportunities under the basket. Alberta still managed to keep it close, but was unable to get closer than seven points down the stretch, as the Stingers beat the Pandas 64-57. Concordia head coach Keith Pruden

credited the Pandas defensive effort, but cited his veteran players for showing enough poise to get the Stingers through the game.

"[The Pandas] are young, and I thought in the last five minutes of the game we showed some veteran guard play and were able to stay in control of the game. But I thought Alberta played very well," he said. "They had a couple broken rotations defensively where we were able to take advantage of it, but I can only see them getting better as the season goes along."

Saturday night, the Pandas faced the Lions and found a key ingredient for success in fifth-year forward Stephanie Stolk, who sat out Friday's game due to soreness in her knee. Stolk brought a focused energy to her team from the opening tip, as she led the team in scoring, rebounds and steals with 15, seven and three, respectively. The Pandas built a 15-point lead at the half and rolled to a 71-47 win, their first victory of the pre-season. Baker said that Stolk's infectious effort brought the best out of everyone Saturday. Forwards Melissa Penner and Karen Lodge combined for 22 points and ten rebounds in the game, while rookie forward Kristin Jarock grabbed seven rebounds.

"Steph got us going [Saturday]. I

thought she did a great job and she's playing on one leg, which she's going to go through most of the year," Baker said. "I thought we got some great performances out of a lot of different people."

The momentum created Saturday night in the Pandas win carried over into Sunday's afternoon game against the Spartans. Alberta controlled throughout, forcing the Spartans into 31 turnovers en route to a 70-43 win. The Pandas got a scare as Melissa Penner was lost in the game's early minutes to what turned out to be an ankle sprain, but Jarock filled the void with her best performance of the weekend, netting 14 points and ten rebounds, both team highs.

The pair of convincing wins to wrap up the pre-season should give the Pandas confidence as they prepare for their regular season opener in Saskatchewan on Friday, 5 November.

"Now we know we can play. We're going to come up against some tough teams and we're going to have some ups and downs, but I think it's a huge step forward for us," said Baker. "I have 13 people on this team and I can throw anyone in there," she said. "We're young, but these kids have played a lot of basketball; they're winners. We're very athletic, and I know we're going to get better."

SPORTS SHORTS

Women's Soccer

The Pandas (5-3-2) stayed in the Canada West playoff race with a win and a tie over the weekend. They beat the then-winless Regina Cougars 8-0 on Saturday, then played to a 2-2 draw with the first-place UBC Thunderbirds (8-1-3) on Sunday. Alberta now sits one point out of the final playoff spot, with four games remaining in the season—one against each of the four teams they're chasing.

Yesterday, the Cougars finished off their season with a shocking 2-1 win over the Saskatchewan Huskies (3-6-1), bringing their record to 1-13. They were outscored 79-7 throughout the year.

Men's Soccer

The Golden Bears (4-2-2) are also in the midst of a playoff race, sitting five points behind the UBC Thunderbirds (6-3-1) for the final spot, though they have two games in hand. They suffered a disappointing 2-1 loss to the T-Birds on Sunday. They'll tour BC this weekend to face the three teams ahead of them.

Men's Basketball

The Golden Bears will host their annual Golden Bear Invitational tournament this weekend in the Main Gym. The Bears will play the Concordia Stingers Thursday at 8:15pm, the Saskatchewan Huskies Friday at 8:15pm, and the Simon Fraser Clan at the same time Saturday.

Volleyball

The Bears and Pandas will both open their regular seasons on the road this weekend. The Bears will play the Cougars on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon in Regina, while the Pandas will visit the Saskatchewan Huskies Friday and Saturday nights.

Football

The Calgary Dinos (3-4) missed out on a glorious opportunity to clinch a playoff spot on Saturday when they lost 14-12 to the Simon Fraser Clan (3-4). The Clan played only four days earlier, but the Dinos were unable to take advantage of their fatigued opponent.

The Clan can now claim the fourth and final playoff spot in Canada West, and the chance to face the Golden Bears in



JACOB EDWARDS

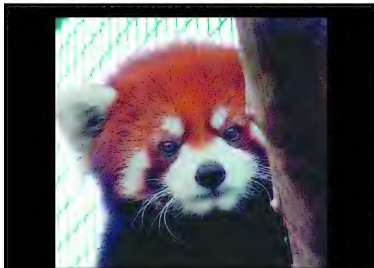
NOT ENOUGH Bears midfielder Eric Baranowski launches a kick during Sunday's 2-1 loss to the UBC Thunderbirds.

the conference semi-final on Saturday, 6 November at Foote Field, with a Saturday win over the Manitoba Bisons (2-5). The Dinos will play the UBC Thunderbirds (5-2) on Saturday, needing a win and a

Clan loss to make the playoffs.

The Thunderbirds, meanwhile, still have a slim hope of finishing second in the conference and hosting a first-round playoff game. Unfortunately for

them, though, in addition to a win over the Dinos, they need the Saskatchewan Huskies (5-2) lose to the currently winless Regina Rams (0-7) in the other game in the final week of regular season play.



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THE STATS PAGE

Football

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	OTL	PF	PA	PTS
x-Alberta	8	7	1	0	0	235	145	14
x-Sask	7	5	2	0	0	217	84	10
x-UBC	7	5	2	0	0	218	186	10
Calgary	7	3	4	0	0	121	172	6
Simon Fraser	7	3	4	0	0	138	191	6
Manitoba	7	2	5	0	0	150	201	4
Regina	7	0	7	0	0	109	231	0

x—Clinched playoff berth (top four teams qualify).

Results

Saturday

SFU 14	Calgary 12	Manitoba 53	Regina 21
Sask 13	Alberta 21		

Schedule

Saturday, 30 October

SFU @ Manitoba 12:30pm	Sask @ Regina 2pm
Calgary @ UBC 2pm	

CIS Top Ten (last week)

1. Montréal (1)	6. Saskatchewan (3)
2. Wilfrid Laurier (2)	7. Western (9)
3. Laval (4)	8. Saint Mary's (5)
4. McMaster (6)	9. UBC (10)
5. Alberta (7)	10. Concordia (8)

Field Hockey

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
x-UBC	9	9	0	0	31	6	27
x-Victoria	9	5	3	1	21	8	16
x-Alberta	9	3	6	0	7	19	9
Calgary	9	0	8	1	6	32	1

x—Clinched national championship berth (top two plus host Alberta).

Canada West tournament #3 (at Victoria)

Friday	Saturday
UBC 6 Calgary 2	UBC 4 Alberta 0
Alberta 0 Victoria 3	Calgary 1 Victoria 1

Sunday

Alberta 1	Calgary 0
UBC 2	Victoria 1

Men's Soccer

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Victoria	10	7	1	2	24	9	23
Trinity Western	10	7	1	2	21	8	23
UBC	10	6	3	1	26	10	19
Alberta	8	4	2	2	22	9	14
Calgary	9	2	5	2	12	22	8
Lethbridge	10	1	8	1	6	35	4
Saskatchewan	9	0	7	2	11	28	2

Note: Top three plus Calgary (host) qualify for conference championship.

Results

Saturday	Sunday
UBC 6 Saskatchewan 1	TWU 4 Lethbridge 1
Victoria 3 Lethbridge 1	UBC 2 Alberta 1
	Victoria 5 Calgary 1

Monday

TWU 1	Calgary 0
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Schedule

Thursday, 28 October	Sask @ Victoria 9:15pm
Alberta @ TWU 8:15pm	
Saturday, 30 October	Sunday, 31 October
Calgary @ Leth 2pm	Leth @ Calgary 2:15pm
Alberta @ UBC 3:15pm	Alberta @ Victoria 3:15pm
Sask @ TWU 5:15pm	Sask @ UBC 3:15pm

Women's Soccer

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
UBC	12	8	1	3	35	8	27
Trinity Western	12	7	2	3	25	12	24
Calgary	11	6	3	2	19	7	20
Victoria	12	5	4	3	33	14	18
Alberta	10	5	3	2	35	18	17
Lethbridge	12	4	6	2	21	28	14
Saskatchewan	11	3	7	1	11	23	10
Regina	14	1	13	0	7	79	3

Note: Top three plus UBC (host) qualify for conference championship.

Results

Thursday	Saturday
UBC 5 Regina 0	Regina 0 Alberta 8
	UBC 4 Sask 1
	Victoria 1 Leth 1

Sunday

UBC 2	Alberta 2	TWU 2	Calgary 0
TWU 4	Lethbridge 2	Regina 2	Sask 1
Victoria 2	Calgary 1		

Schedule

Thursday, 28 October	Sask @ Victoria 7pm
Alberta @ TWU 6pm	
Saturday, 30 October	Sunday, 31 October
Calgary @ Leth 12pm	Leth @ Calgary 12pm
Alberta @ UBC 1pm	Alberta @ Victoria 1pm
Sask @ TWU 3pm	Sask @ UBC 1pm

Women's Hockey

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Alberta	4	4	0	0	24	2	8
Regina	2	1	1	0	9	9	2
Lethbridge	2	1	1	0	9	9	2
UBC	2	1	1	0	5	9	2
Saskatchewan	4	1	3	0	10	16	2
Manitoba	2	0	2	0	1	13	0

Results

Friday	Saturday
Sask 1 Alberta 3	Sask 0 Alberta 8

Schedule

Friday, 29 October	Saturday, 30 October
Manitoba @ Leth 7pm	Manitoba @ Leth 7pm
UBC @ Regina 7:30pm	UBC @ Regina 7:30pm

Men's Hockey

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Alberta	6	5	1	0	32	13	10
Saskatchewan	4	3	0	1	19	9	7
Calgary	4	2	0	2	18	7	6
Manitoba	4	2	1	1	13	10	5
Regina	6	1	3	2	19	25	4
Lethbridge	6	1	5	0	15	39	2
UBC	6	0	4	2	15	28	2

Results

Friday	Saturday
Calgary 6 Lethbridge 1	Lethbridge 0 Calgary 6
Sask 3 Regina 3	Sask 4 Regina 1
Alberta 5 UBC 1	Alberta 5 UBC 3

Schedule

Friday, 29 October	Saturday, 30 October
Leth @ Manitoba 6pm	Leth @ Manitoba 6pm
Calgary @ Sask 7pm	Calgary @ Sask 7pm
Regina @ Alberta 7:30pm	Regina @ Alberta 7:30pm

Women's Volleyball

Results

Friday	Saturday
Calgary 3 SFU 1	Calgary 3 SFU 0
UBC 3 Manitoba 0	UBC 3 Manitoba 1

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U of A alumnus Paul Gross goes from playing mountie on *Due South* to prime minister in his new CBC mini-series, *H2O*



GROSS OUT ... AND ABOUT Paul Gross stops at the Sugarbowl to chat about his new show.

H2O

Directed by Charles Binamé
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Martha Henry, David Boutin, Gordon Pinsent,
and Louise Portal
CBC

Premieres Sunday, 31 October at 8pm

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Arts & Entertainment Writer

U of A alumnus, Paul Gross has become known for playing roles that are quintessentially Canadian: a Mountie—Constable Benton Fraser—on *Due South*; a member of a curling team in *Men With Brooms* (a feature which Gross also directed and co-wrote); and now, a Canadian prime minister.

In the suspenseful two-part Canadian political thriller, *H2O* (the series begins Sunday, 31 October and concludes Monday, 1 November on CBC television), Gross plays fictional Prime Minister Tom McLaughlin. After a tragic canoe trip, McLaughlin's father (who is prime minister) is killed. Tom steps up to the plate and takes over his father's position and in the days that follow, Ottawa becomes cast as a world of hidden agendas, betrayals and murder. Ultimately, the destiny of Canada is under question.

But despite the deep-rooted issues *H2O* unearths—political issues such as the sale of water as a commodity, and terrorism—the program is not meant to be a heavy, political work.

"It's not an essay. It's entertainment; it's a thriller," Gross says. And it's a project that Gross is particularly excited about. "It's a wild ride; I actually still like watching it after all these months working on it and I still think, 'Wow this is exciting,'" he says.

Some of that excitement came from portraying the ambitious Prime Minister McLaughlin. "It was really fun to do because we shot in the Parliament Buildings and all of the guys there—the guards and the national capital police and the RCMP guys that were involved in it—they'd start opening doors for me: 'Good morning, Mr Prime Minister,' when I was going to work and it was kind of neat. I thought [being PM] wouldn't be all that bad; you never have to open a door," Gross jokes.

But playing PM wasn't without its challenges and, according to Gross, the greatest challenge in portraying the prime minister had more to do

with the costume than acting.

"I wore more suits for a long period of time than I ever have in my life," Gross says. "I think it probably accounts for that certain funny kind of constipated constriction that parliament seems to have. I think they should just loosen up the breastplate for a start and they might get more done," he laughs.

As for his character, Gross describes McLaughlin as "quite unlike any prime minister we've ever had." As such, he didn't draw from any particular PMs, past or present, in putting together his character, but was nevertheless influenced by a range of Canadian politicians.

"What I kind of realized is we're incredibly familiar with our leaders and particularly our prime ministers. Probably more so than any other person, any other walk of life in our society, because we see them all the time, watching them on news clips ... you see them from all different angles. You see them laugh, you see them angry, you see them in election campaigns. They're studied to death, so I think the research, if there was any, was just living in this country. You just become familiar with them."

Gross' involvement with *H2O* extends beyond acting; he co-wrote it with John Krizanc, and produced it. Gross has built a reputation as a writer along with his acting credits—he wrote several episodes of *Due South* as well as the script to *Men With Brooms*, and he sees his roles of actor and writer as two very different things that fit together well.

"They are all just pieces, elements of the same pursuit, which is to tell a story. And luckily I can do both right now."

He also mentions that being the writer of his own script can be awfully helpful on set. "It's very handy actually having a writer around on the set, because if you run into some sort of problem—dialogue isn't working, doesn't fit with the geography of a particular location, or cetera—I can just change it right away," he explains.

As for his long-term inspiration for his work, Gross, who earned his BFA in theatre at the U of A, looks fondly on his time spent in Edmonton. "Overall, it was terrific. I had a few extremely good teachers. I was exposed to a wide range of stuff and given a template that I can always return to. It was a lot of fun," Gross says. And, he adds with a smile, "I owe everything to the University of Alberta."

Purist fans may hold a *Grudge* against J-horror remake

The Grudge

Directed by Takashi Shimizu
Starring Sarah Michelle Gellar, Jason Behr,
and Bill Pullman
Now playing

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The *Grudge*, the American remake of the 2003 Japanese horror flick *Ru-Ju-On*: The *Grudge*, aims to do what any good horror film should: scare you. And if that scare comes at the expense of a decent story and characters, so be it.

Unlike the original, most of the main characters of *The Grudge* are American, with Sarah Michelle Gellar (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*) leading the pack as exchange student and part-time homemaker worker Karen. Taking the place of a co-worker who has mysteriously gone missing, Karen winds up looking after an elderly shut-in who, as she is told, suffers from "mild dementia." But, predictably, the old woman isn't crazy, she's cursed, and not long after Karen enters the house she becomes one of the poor souls who will be haunted by the house's curse for the next 90 minutes.

The house is haunted, we're told, because

someone died there in the grip of a powerful rage, leaving—you guessed it—a terrible curse on the house. Karen's boyfriend Doug (Jason Behr) and university professor, Peter (Bill Pullman), are just two of the various characters who also face the building's supernatural wrath as the narrative jumps between the past and the present to tell the story of the haunted house.

Director Takashi Shimizu, (the original writer and director of the Japanese version) reforms *The Grudge* from an all-Japanese horror movie focusing on multiple story lines to an American-style film, tightly following the story of Karen. Shimizu seems to rely on the fact that his audience will be looking to be scared rather than be enthralled by the story, seemingly spending his time on his eerie visuals rather than focusing on the plot.

Moreover, the movie treats the supporting cast as elements to be used in advancing Karen's story rather than letting them stand as interesting characters on their own. Still, the acting is thankfully good all round—save for Gellar's tendency to go slightly over the top—with especially good performances by the Japanese detectives investigating the case, who are unfortunately relegated to minor roles.

To its credit, *The Grudge* is a decent movie,



and while there's much left to be desired with the story and characters, the same complaint could be made for almost any other horror film, good or bad. And, seeing as Shimizu focuses most of his attention on making a scary movie, it should be said that he achieves this goal in every sense.

The lighting and soundtrack significantly contribute to the movie's scariness—the horror-house sounds of creaking and cracking and visuals of dark hallways and shadowy attics set up a mood of tension, making the audience all the

more terrified when the movie's very unexpected frights appear.

The Grudge, for all of its faults, manages to do what the vast majority of scary movies cannot: it scares the audience without subjecting them to a total gore fest. While a Hollywood version of the original only a year after its release in Japan will probably be criticized by some audiences, *The Grudge* delivers a creepy, unnerve-film experience that won't disappoint people who are looking for a genuinely scary movie.



WELCOME TO THEIR LIFE Pop-punks Simple Plan kick back at Edmonton's Crowne Plaza Hotel.

NATHALIE MADEAU

Keeping it plain and simple

JAMES STORRIE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Catching up with power-pop heartthrobs Simple Plan at Edmonton's Crowne Plaza Hotel, it seems the first thing on their minds is food. "I love these lunch interviews," grins vocalist Pierre Bouvier. "This is probably the first real meal I've had in a week."

Between a UK tour with Avril Lavigne and the release of their newest album, *Still Not Getting Any...*, which hits stores today, Montréal natives Simple Plan have been a busy band. The group played an exclusive concert at the Starlite last Saturday (all audience members were contest winners).

"I don't even remember the last time we've had a day off," Bouvier points out.

"We define a day off as waking up and getting to bed in the same day, really," guitarist Sébastien Lefebvre explains.

It's not the rock lifestyle everyone thinks of. It's just work and travel, all the time. And, bit of blow, a bit of hookers," Bouvier jokes.

Bouvier is quick to point out that despite their popularity, they're "not big famous rock stars."

"We'd get off planes and people would say, 'That one's the singer, that one's the drummer...' Only later would they say, 'Wait—that's only four; who's the other one?'" says Lefebvre with a deprecating chuckle. "Then again, maybe that's my fault for

changing my hair all the time."

"We've sold a lot of records and we're definitely a band that's well known, but we never had the hype that a band like Sum 41 or the White Stripes got, where they were on the cover of every magazine ever and everyone knew who they were," Bouvier explains.

"Our record outsold the Strokes', but we don't get recognized everywhere like they do. It's like they have this rock-star aura, where everyone knows exactly who they are and why they're important. Us, we just come off like a bunch of regular guys."

PIERRE BOUVIER,
VOCALIST, SIMPLE PLAN

"Our record outsold the Strokes', but we don't get recognized everywhere like they do."

"It's like they have this rock-star aura, where everyone knows exactly who they are and why they're important. Us, we just come off like a bunch of regular guys."

Despite widespread popular success,

Simple Plan has, like other power-pop and pop-punk outfits of their ilk, been dragged through the mud by the critics.

"The critics seem to love things that are not catchy, things that most people don't really like," Bouvier says. "They're so obsessed with being cool that they don't give music like ours a chance because it's just not cool to like Simple Plan. I don't know if it's because so many young kids come to our shows, or because you can understand our lyrics without having to figure out some weird metaphor, but the critics just don't think we're cool enough."

"I read some reviews, and I think, 'Come on, if you'd really listened to the album, you wouldn't say that.'"

"People think it's really easy to write a clever pop song, but it's actually really hard. Pop music reuses a lot of material, but that makes it harder, not easier: it's tough trying to make something original out of the same three chords that everyone else is using, or to write a good melody."

"We've never really got a good review, and it's hard to say why. We're not all that fucked up, maybe. We're not covered in tattoos. We're not all that cool," says Bouvier.

It's a bit of a downer, agrees Lefebvre, but in the end not all that important.

"We're not writing for the critics. We're writing for the kid who comes to our shows to rock out. I'd rather one kid having a good time at one of our shows than a dozen good reviews."

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Midnight Eye - Jasper Sharp

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SIMPLE PLAN TALK SOUP

Despite the fame and Oken Twin movie cameos, it's the simple things that still matter most to Simple Plan—simple things like the proper definition of bisque.

For the record, bisque is defined as a rich, creamy soup made from meat, fish or shellfish, or a thick cream soup made of pureed vegetables—no matter what Chuck Comeau says.

Pierre Bouvier (vocalist): Oh, hold on. The soup's here.

Sébastien Lefebvre (guitarist): This looks more like a bisque.

Gateway: What is a bisque, anyway?

Gateway photographer: I think it has to do with cream. Lobster bisque has lots of cream.

Bouvier: Well, I guess that's settled. **Bouvier:** So why is this soup tomato bisque, if it has tomato in it?

Lefebvre: I guess it's just cream of tomato.

Bouvier: Yeah. Wait—why do they call it cream of tomato and not soup of tomato, like soup of broccoli?

Bouvier: Nobody says soup of broccoli, Sébastien. That doesn't exist.

Lefebvre: So it's kind of like cream of asparagus... soup... bisque?

Chuck Comeau (drummer): A bisque is when you soak the ingredients, like lobster, in some liquid, and then you take that liquid out and make the soup out of it, but you don't put the thing

itself in. That's why there's no lobster in lobster bisque.

Bouvier: Oh. **Gateway:** Well, I guess that's settled. **Bouvier:** So why is this soup tomato bisque, if it has tomato in it?

Lefebvre: I guess it's just cream of tomato.

Bouvier: Yeah. Wait—why do they call it cream of tomato and not soup of tomato, like soup of broccoli?

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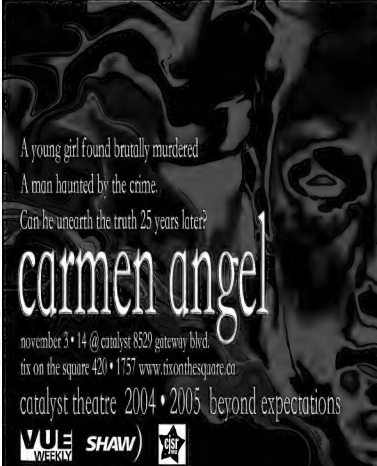


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Guest Panelists from Gov't of Alberta - Dep't of Agriculture, Food & Rural Development, Virex Inc. and more TBA

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Sarah Slean 'shines up' her eyes

Singer-songwriter shies away from the pursuit of fame to find beauty and inspiration in the everyday world around her

Sarah Slean

with Ron Seesmith
Horowitz Theatre
Tuesday, 26 October at 8pm

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"I don't consider myself famous at all," says singer/songwriter Sarah Slean. "I find that the most laughable concept, that people might think that about me."

Of course, most musicians put forward a humble front, but now on her fourth album and her second with music giant Warner, Slean has every right to boast.

But she has her reasons for maintaining a modest exterior.

"I find the pursuit of fame really repulsive," says Slean.

"I lived in Los Angeles last July and all I want is to be far away from that world. It's just people dying to be seen and envied, and they're willing to climb over anyone to get it. They see people as avenues of self-interest rather than seeing other people as other people. That whole world doesn't appeal to me at all; I just want

to make great art."

Creating great art isn't easy, as it turns out.

And it was in the pursuit of creating great art that Sarah literally headed for the hills, spending time alone in the wilderness painting, composing, and finding herself.

"I was utterly lost before I had my 'cabin-experience,'" says Slean. "It was my last-ditch attempt to save my sense of wonder. I was losing faith, and by going there, I was trying to find the strength to just let all the monsters come out and be terrified, but keep my eyes open and see what would happen."

What happened was Slean emerged from the woods ready to create the follow-up album to her critically-acclaimed mainstream debut *Night Bugs*. Spending five months in Toronto, Slean recorded *Day One*, an album chronicling her personal highs and lows. The record features slightly ironic upbeat tempos that are combined with serious, thoughtful lyrics.

Finding inspiration from both the big city and remote woodlands, Slean is grateful that Canada offers such diverse hideaways.

"I find this country a refuge," comments Slean. "We're getting more influenced by America every day, especially in the world of culture, which is being affected by commerce. But Canada has maintained a sort of autonomy in that world, which allows us to create people like Joni Mitchell, Leonard Cohen, and Neil Young. There is so much intellect and fire. People are alive here and I think that people here aren't trying to turn music into the next dollar as much as our neighbours to the south."

What source of inspiration will command Slean next has yet to be seen, but given her tendency to take off on a whim and find her creativity anywhere and everywhere, chances are it will come from a place no one will suspect.

"When my eyes are working, and I'm not mired in worry or anxiety or self-pity, everything is amazing," says Slean excitedly. "Leonard Bernstein, the prairies, little kids and the clothes they choose to wear, and fans that come up to me at shows and tell me, 'I started playing music because of you. The beauty is everywhere; you just have to shine up your eyes.'"



A Graham & The Moment Band

This Tyrant Is Free
Sonic Uryon
www.andygraham.org

ADAM GAUMONT

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Maybe A Graham & The Moment Band should have kept this titular tyrant in his cage, because freed (as the title implies he is), he's out to impose shitty music on the world.

A Graham and his aforementioned Band's *This Tyrant Is Free* is 14 tedious, near-indistinguishable tracks that sound as if they were recorded in the high-school band room on a Fisher Price red-to-red.

The vocals are tiny and distant, and vocalist Andy Graham ekes them out in a half-hearted whine that makes

him sound like a wimpy version of The Offspring's Dexter Holland. As for the lyrics, they are simplistic, uncreative, and nauseatingly repetitive, and their delivery via Graham's whiny vocals is simply too much for the average person to bear.

Add to the mix the hollow, scratchy guitar work that is rampant throughout and you get what amounts to a whole lot of mediocrity.

Upon listening to this amateurish concoction of half-developed musical ideas, one can only hope that this band's moment in the limelight, should it ever come about, is short-lived.





SNFU
In the Meantime and in Between Time
Razor Records
www.snfu.com

YING-YING LEE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Despite countless lineup changes and the release of numerous albums, a common denominator remains in the music of Edmonton punk legends

SNFU: the sharp-witted lyrics of Mr Chi Pig.

Singing about subjects like disdain for head thrashing in "Der Heavy Head Dancer" and a liking for the ladies in "Blaine Blaine," Chi Pig's voice echoes with the monotonous regularity of a metronome on the band's ninth full-length release, *In the Meantime and in Between Time*.

The only other founding member, Marc Belke, brings aggressive guitar riffs to each track (his closing solo on "Cheap Transistor Radio" is particularly impressive).

New members Shane Smith (drums) and Matt Warhurst (bass) bring a solid rhythm section that is worthy, if not superior, to their predecessors.

Rest assured: *In the Meantime and in Between Time* is another significant contribution to SNFU's long and successful career.



Z'Howndz
Release
New Glue Records
www.newgluerecords.com

ADAM GAUMONT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The musicianship on Z'Howndz's *Release* is better than one might expect from a band that hasn't mastered the art of spelling. However, it lacks any real direction or inspiration.

The sound is indecisive, with elements of garage, psychedelica, and jam-rock, as well as hints of ska and roots. And the pace ranges from upbeat rock n' roll boogies to grungy, mellow jams. (These jams, however, meander into confused, repetitive music-discourse, with no resolution in sight.)

The lyrics are consistent though talky and dubbed-sounding—typical of the garage-band style Z'Howndz seems to be going for—and generally concerning disastrous relationships.

The album starts well: "Sex, Drugs and Rock & Roll" and "Jane Says" are worth a listen for fans of garage rock (though they're perhaps too chaotic for devotees of easy-on-the-ears Top-40 material).

But the guitars are generally too whiny, especially on songs like "Julie," and with nothing to really make the album stand out, the music inevitably fades into the background.



Jane Monheit
Taking A Chance On Love
Sony Classical
www.janemonheitmusic.com

ELIZABETH VAIL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The idea of someone covering dusty, moth-eaten old standards like "I Won't Dance," "Embraceable You," and "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" may sound entirely unappealing. Everyone from Frank Sinatra to Clay Aiken to

Rod Stewart to William Shatner has performed at least one version of these songs, with varying results of success and hilarity. If these tunes were horses, they'd be long dead, beaten past recognition.

Jane Monheit, on her fifth CD, proves that a few of these nags are still kicking, or at least twitching feebly.


While her vocal mannerisms may evoke a few comparisons to Nora Jones, her voice projects an energy and balance that puts the former's sleepy drawl to shame.

As she nimbly threads around the well-worn words, all the while backed up by an army of talented musicians wielding reeds and strings, she dances along a slender tightrope between casual and classical. She's too relaxed for the Winpear, and too classy for Starbucks.

She's perfect, however, for hours of jazzy listening with a few close friends.



EVERYTHING WE LONGED FOR Hayden Elk Lake serenaded the audience at the Horowitz Theatre last Saturday.




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ArtsHab parties for art's sake



NOTHING SCARIER THAN NO ART DOWNTOWN Members of ArtsHab One.

The ArtsHab One Scary Ball
with *Champion Alberta, Whitty Houston, No Hands, Twin Fangs, Little Baby Cupcakes, The Wild Rose Burlesque Troupe, DJ Miss Mannered, DJ Bob Gane, DJ Mitters, and films, visual art and poetry by the friends and residents of ArtsHab One*
The Paramount Theatre
(1033 Jasper Avenue)
Saturday, 30 October at 6pm

JAMES STORRIE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's not often that Edmonton sees a great benefit gala, let alone one where white belts and band pins outnumber tunes and bowties.

But this Saturday at the Paramount Theatre, ArtsHab One presents the Scary Ball—a diverse ball of events that features everything from local music, film and visual arts to a burlesque show—to raise money for their organization. ArtsHab One provides artists with a space to live and work in the city's centre so that they might revitalize the downtown core through the arts.

"City planners knew the arts were often the key to keeping the downtown running, but they also knew that it sort of worked in a cycle," explains Jeff Collins, painter and ArtsHab resident. "As downtown areas would become

less popular, the rent would go down, and then artists would move into the vacant lots. The presence of so many artists would help raise property value around the area, and business would move back in, but then things would get too expensive again and the artists would have to leave, causing the whole cycle to repeat."

ArtsHab One was designed to put an end to this cultural boom-and-bust by providing artists with a permanent and affordable area to live within the downtown core.

Unfortunately, says Collins, "The city was either unable or unwilling to actually purchase a building in the downtown area, so they simply took out a lease on the one we are in now. And, as expected, as the downtown core started to pick up, the price on the lease went up, too."

Many artist-residents of the ArtsHab have been forced out by the rising price, and in an effort to raise both funds and awareness the idea of a benefit event came up.

"We had the Sweaty Ball in the summer, and now we're having the Scary Ball, and we'll probably have to have a Snow Ball sometime in February, too."

Luckily for the residents of ArtsHab, their fellow artists were only too happy to help out. Some, such as painters Tim Rechner and Tony Baker, pulled their

respective bands (Champion, Alberta and Little Baby Cupcakes) into the effort. Other artists simply chipped in out of a desire to help.

"One of the benefits of being right at the centre of the arts community is having a lot of artist contacts," explains Rechner. "You always know plenty of good people who will be willing to help out."

And while the Scary Ball—a gargantuan event featuring the musical stylings of Champion, Alberta, Twin Fangs, Whitty Houston, No Hands, and Little Baby Cupcakes, plus local poets, visual art, film, a burlesque show and even a haunted house in the Paramount's dilapidated basement—is bound to recoup its costs, it will only be a temporary solution.

Rent prices are still on the rise, and until the ArtsHab is moved to a location owned by the city, the fluctuations of the market will still pose a risk. Still, Collins is hopeful.

"Bill Smith liked to just throw money at his personal pet projects as far as the arts went, and quite a few things went overlooked. Mayor Mandel had the wisdom to admit he doesn't know every single thing that goes on in the arts community here in Edmonton, and that he was going to delegate the funding to the various groups and councils that did. Hopefully they'll throw a little our way."

Spooky cabaret promises to be the stuff of urban legend

Urban Tales Cabaret

Presented in conjunction with the InterFEAR Arts Festival
Written by Rob Appleford, Susan Cameron, Bequie Lake, Twilla MacLeod, James Ostine, and Polly Wiseman
Directed by Otilie Parfitt and Jan Alexandra Smith
Starring Andrea Cheung, Marilyn Ryan, Paul Sutherland, and Kristi Hansen
The Third Space (11516 103 Street)
29 and 30 October at 8pm

LONDON MILLER
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Whether it's a story about alligators in the New York sewer system or a rumour about a friend of a friend who went to the tanning beds so often that she started to cook on the inside, urban legends are a part of our culture. And even Edmontonians have their own homegrown tales to dish out, tales that Northern Light Theatre's sampling a sizable helping of for its seventh annual Urban Tales Cabaret.

The cabaret, previously a part of the annual Carnival of Souls Festival, was originally designed to "prey on urban myths that we had within our city and local culture," says the cabaret's curator and co-director, Otilie Parfitt.

It's a theme that has always made for a spooky evening of theatre, made all the more terrifying by the urban tales' familiar Edmontonian setting. Parfitt mentions one particularly eerie piece from a previous year, written by local playwright Marty Chan.

"There's such a broad range of different tales that each one is really different, so you could leave feeling very icky and freaked out, or other ones are very comical."

OTILIE PARFITT,
CURATOR AND CO-DIRECTOR OF
URBAN TALES CABARET

"He had written a piece about a woman being followed on the [U] of A campus, and spoke about the underground passages, so that aspect of it was based in reality. The reason those passages are now closed is because people were getting attacked in them; it's a bit creepy because it did

hit close to home."

This year, Northern Light Theatre is presenting a whole new breed of tales at the Urban Tales Cabaret, all inspired by the spirit of fear.

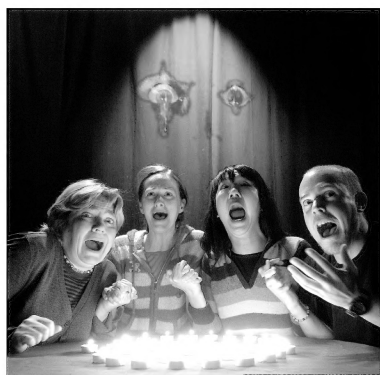
"This year we wanted to shake things up a bit," explains Parfitt. "Instead of leaving it as an open call for submissions [of scripts], we decided that the playwrights had to incorporate five key elements: a house, a haunting, a key, a portrait, and a staircase."

"Although this year two themes kept popping up within the works themselves: cellphones and penises. There's even one about the Internet—they're quite modern pieces," adds Parfitt.

Parfitt admits that the cabaret isn't exactly an outing for the entire family, and that it's an evening featuring some mature content. "Everything from genitalia to dildos comes up," she says.

But with its informal, cabaret atmosphere, Parfitt says the Urban Tales Cabaret is the perfect opportunity for people who aren't necessarily old theatre-goers to experience a night of drama.

"There are six different shorts, and there's no pressure; they're not really heavy work. And they're not full-



I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM The cast of Urban Tales Cabaret.

fledged productions either. They're staged readings with a visual and audio portion to them. It's relaxed, it's casual, and it's fun."

Parfitt also reminds audiences to pre-

pare for the unexpected. "There's such a broad range of different tales that each one is really different, so you could leave feeling very icky and freaked out, or other ones are very comical."

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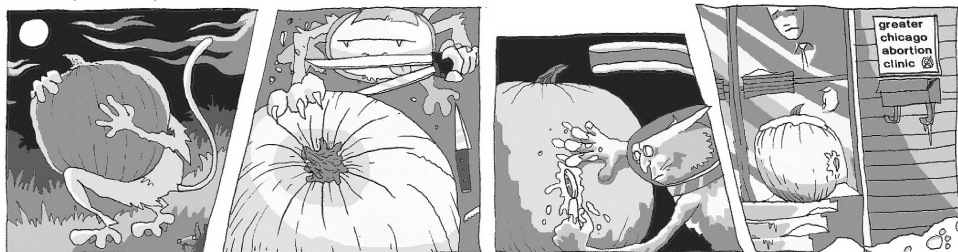
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